THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

REGISTERED No. 44.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXVIII.
NUMBER 31.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 1881.

Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 25TH JULY.

THE FOLLOWING items of Parliamentary intelligence will interest the reader:

SUBSIDIES TO THE AMIR OF AFGHANISTAN.

Viscount Sandon, in the absence of Mr. Stanhope, asked the Secretary of State for India whether he would state the total amount of the subsidies in money, independently of gifts of arms, which had been granted to the Amir Abdur Rahman.

The Marquis of Hartington: So far as can be ascertained from the letters and telegrams from India, the total amount which has been paid to Abdur Rahman, is rather more than thirty-nine and-a-half lacs. Of this sum nine and-a-half lacs is money which was found in Cabul Treasury when the city was occupied in October 1879. In addition, the Amir's Governor of Candahar is receiving a temporary subsidy of 50,000 rupees a month. This arrangement, I understand, is at present intended to continue for six months.

Mr. Macfarlane asked whether the money was a gift or a loan.

The Marquis of Hartington said it was a gift. In English money it would be about £390,000.

OPIUM IN BRITISH BURMAH.

Sir W. Lawson asked the Secretary of State for India whether the measures recommended by Mr. Aitchison, Chief Commissioner of British Burmah, for prohibiting the traffic in opium the consumption of which article he declared to be "affecting the very life of this young and otherwise prosperous province," had been carried out.

The Marquis of Hartington: The principal measures recommended by Mr. Aitchison, which are embodied in the draft Orders of the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah—(*vide* page 17 of Parliamentary Return) have been carried into effect. The number of shops for the retail sale of opium has been reduced from sixty-eight to twenty-seven—with effect from the 1st April last. From the same date also the rates at which opium is supplied by the Collector to a farmer, licensed vendor, or medical practitioner have been raised from Rs. 24 to 28 in Arakan, and, to Rs. 32 a seer in Pegu and Tenasserim. Three other recommendations were made by Mr. Aitchison in connection with this subject, which do not appear to have been adopted. They are as follows:—1. That opium should only be consumed on the premises and that the possession of opium in any quantity, however small, outside the shops, except under pass from the Collector should be illegal. 2. That habitual opium smokers should be placed under restraint, and required to find security for their good behaviour. 3. That a Commissioner of Excise should be appointed for Burmah.

Sir W. Lawson asked whether the parties had received compensation.

The Marquis of Hartington: I am not aware of it.

FLOGGING OF PRISONERS IN INDIA.

Mr. T. Thompson asked the Secretary of State for India, whether prisoners in India ordered by the governors of prisons to be flogged, had, in all cases, an opportunity of being heard in their defence before some person in authority independent of the prison executive.

The Marquis of Hartington: The powers of a Superintendent of gaols as to the infliction of corporal punishment for prison offences are regulated by different Acts for the various Presidencies, which Acts are supplemented by rules made by the local authorities. Throughout the Bengal Presidency the Superintendent is by the Prisons Act, 26 of 1870, empowered to order corporal punishment; but in case of repeated offences against prison discipline, he is directed to bring the matter to the cognizance of a Magistrate, who is empowered to hold an inquiry upon oath, and it is only in these cases that the prisoner has an opportunity of being heard before an independent authority. No corporal punishment is to be inflicted in any of the Presidencies except in the presence of the Superintendent, and with the sanction of the medical officer. I have already stated, in answer to the Hon. Member for Dungarvan, that the large number of corporal punishments in the gaols of Bengal has attracted the attention of the Governments of Bengal and of India; that provisional orders have been issued, which have already had the effect of greatly diminishing their number; and that further inquiries have been instituted with the view of substituting, in many cases, a less objectionable form of punishment.

THE PROPOSED INDIAN LOAN.

Mr. K. Cross asked the Secretary of State for India, whether, in order to obtain the highest subscription price for the proposed Indian loan of three crores of rupees, such arrangements could be made as would enable intending applicants to tender in England in sterling as well as in Indian rupees.

The Marquis of Hartington: In all Acts of Parliament, which have been granted since 1858 to enable the Secretary of State in Council to raise money in the United Kingdom on the credit of the revenues of India, the whole amount to be charged on the revenues of India, has been limited. The point involved in the question is whether the Secretary of State, acting as the agent of the Governor-General in Council, can, without the previous concurrence of Parliament, receive money in London for an Indian Rupee Loan. In 1858, a Bill was introduced into Parliament, containing a clause empowering the East Indian Company to receive subscriptions in the United Kingdom for loans opened by the Governor-General in Council, the precise object suggested in the question; but after considerable discussion, the clause was withdrawn. In 1859 the Secretary of State (Lord Stanley) was asked whether it were necessary for him to apply to Parliament every time he required a loan for money; and he replied that the Secretary of State might raise what money he required without the sanction of Parliament, but only by a circuitious process. The Government of India might, by its agents here, raise the money; but he added that such a course, although within the letter of the law, would be contrary to its spirit. I do not think that under these circumstances it would be desirable to make such arrangements as are suggested.

THE GOVERNORSHIP OF MADRAS.

Mr. Arnold asked the Secretary of State for India whether, considering that the charge of the establishemet of a Governor and two members of Council in the Presidency of Madras amounts to £38,000 a year and in view of the large financial saving, which would accrue to India from the substitution of a Lieutenant-Governor as in Bengal, he intended to abstain from appointing a successor to the late Mr. Adam until a final decision had been arrived at on the subject. He desired to explain that the question was a repetition of a question put by Lord Camperdown in the House of Lords prior to the appointment of Mr. Adam, in reply to which it was stated on the part of the Government, by Lord Northbrook, that though the appointment of Mr. Adam could not be delayed, the matter was well worthy of consideration and that it would be discussed and decided by Her Majesty's Government after taking the opinion of the Governor-General in Council.

The Speaker said that the Hon. Member was out of order. He was quoting what had been said in the other House of Parliament during the present Session.

Mr. Arnold said his object was merely to learn the decision of the Government, which he had no doubt would be satisfactory.

The Marquis of Hartington. I have no doubt my hon'ble friend is aware that the change he suggests could not be made without legislation. There is a great difference of opinion in India on the question, and in my opinion the policy of the suggested change is open to a very great deal of doubt. But in any case, the necessary legislation to be obtained with the consent of Parliament would be a work of considerable time, and under the circumstances I think it would be quite impossible to contemplate the not filling up of this office until the decision of Parliament had been arrived at. I am quite aware that in another place it has been stated that the subject was well worthy of consideration, and that the attention of the Government of India was directed to it. The opinion of the Government of India has not been formally communicated to me; but I have been in communication with my noble friend the Governor-General on the subject, and the result of these communications is that legislation on the question cannot, within a reasonable time, be initiated. The appointment has not been filled up.

THE TRIAL of the persons accused of the murder of the late Sultan Aziz is over. Midhat Pacha, Mahmoud Damat Pacha, Nouri Pacha, Ali Bey, Nedjib Bey, Fahri Bey, Hadji Mehmed, Mustapha the wrestler, and Mustapha the gardener, have all been condemned to death. Izzet and Seyd have each been sentenced to ten years' penal servitude.

JOHANN MOST, editor and proprietor of the *Freiheit*, who had been convicted of publishing a libel upon the late Emperor of Russia, and of inciting to murder, has been sentenced to sixteen months' imprisonment with hard labour.

THE ARSTOCRATIC SCANDAL which gave rise to an assault committed upon Lord Edward Thynne by the Marquis of Townshend, Colonel Nepean, and Mr. Ellis is at an end, so far as judicial proceedings are concerned. Lord Edward Thynne was horse-whipped by the Marquis as he was driving from Salisbury to Laverstock, the other defendants encouraging and aiding the assailant. The prosecutor, in cross examination, admited having run away with Lady Townshend some years ago; and on other questions being put to "justify" the assault, the chairman of the bench said it was ridiculous to attempt to justiy it. The defendants were all found guilty of assault, upon which the Marquis Townshend said he had been ill ever since the prosecutor's dastardly conduct, or he would have punished him earlier. His lordship was fined £500, in addition to the costs of the prosecution, and was bound over to keep the peace for twelve months; and the other defendants were each fined £100. After the passing of the sentence the Marquis characterised the chairman as a disgrace to the bench, and had to be kept a prisoner four hours before he would consent to pay the fine.

IT IS said that the Americans can now boast of the largest landowner in the world in the person of Mr. Hamilton Desson, a Philadelphia manufacturer. This gentleman has just concluded a contract by which he secures four millions of acres from the Board of Internal Improvement of the State of Florida. He has thus made the largest purchase of land ever effected by any one person. His intention is to work out a great emigration scheme, which will have agencies in England, Germany, and France.

TUESDAY, 26TH JULY.

AN INFANT trader cannot be made a bankrupt—such is the decision of the Court of Appeal in England. The ground taken by the Lords Justices is that there could be no legal debt owing from the infant to the petitioning creditor, and, therefore, the very basis of the whole proceedings in bankruptcy was absent.

IT IS stated that the executors of Lord Beaconsfield have sworn the gross assets, including insurances, at £75,009, which is reduced by corresponding charges and debts to a little over £60,000, upon which probate duty is paid; but this amount includes the valuable library, the heirlooms, and other inconvertible property.

THE REPORT is revived, and this time it is said it rests upon what would appear to be good authority, that Mr. Gladstone will very shortly seek the quietude of the Upper House. The title of the Earl of Oxford, which some have already assigned to him in advance, will not, however, be assumed, as there is at present a dormant peerage bearing that name, and possible claimants may one day come forward. Whatever the title may be, it is fully believed that the translation is imminent. We for one do not still believe the rumour.

THE REV. MR. LONG, in a paper on the "Old Families of Calcutta" published in the last number of the *Journal of the National Indian Association*, gives the following account of the Tagores;

> With this general introduction I take up one family, the 'Tagore," which presents a splendid instance in modern times of the effects of British rule in India. We have to deal with the past and the dead, and can say, therefore, little of the living, among whom are *Debendranath* distinguished for his Vedic knowledge, and the founder of the Brahmo Samaj; *Surendramohun*, who has won a European name for his skill in Bengali music; *Satyendranath* the first native civilian; *Jotendranath* who has risen to the Supreme Legislative Council—a patron of the native drama and *Gyanendra Mohun* who in England has been a link between the European and the native, whose daughters were lately received at Court in a way that marked the Queen's feeling of regard for the people of India.
>
> Among the recently deceased Tagore are *Dwarkanath*, the first native gentleman that crossed the dark waters as a tourist to visit Europe and enjoy its society; *Prosonna Kumar*, noted for his encouragement of legal literature and his magnificent oriental library; and *Ramanath*, a distinguished member of the Bengal Legislative Council, and a prudent leader of native society.

A VERY UGLY story reaches the *Civil and Military Gazette* from Kabul. Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan, recently imprisoned by the Amir, has been starved to death by His Highness. It is rumored in Kabul that he was also subjected to cruel tortures. The Sirdar had been accused of treason—and wealth.

WEDNESDAY, 27TH JULY.

WE ARE GLAD to learn from the Lahore *Tribune* that the Hindus of Mooltan have at last been granted permission to open their own Jhatka shops. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab sent telegraphic orders on the 2nd June, but the permission was not given by the Deputy Commissioner to the Multan Hindus before the 19th current. The Deputy Commissioner might surely have settled the preliminaries in about a week's time. We dare say the Hindus of Mooltan will shout—three cheers for the Lieutenant-Governor!

IT IS REPORTED from Baghdad that there had been no case of plague since June 27th. Quarantine at Selahie, Tenkret, Ghumet Ali, Aleppo and Damascus reduced to eight days.

SOME DISTURBANCES have recently been reported among the Bhil population of the petty State of Pol under the Mahikanta Agency. On the 13th July news was received that large parties of emigrant Bhils from Meywar had made their appearance in the Idar State, and that on the 30th June an attack had been made by them on the village of Gullora. The Bhils were however repulsed with slight loss and took to flight. The movement is probably connected with the recent agitation among the Bhils in the wilder parts of Mewar; but no exact account of its origin has yet been received, as that part of the country which has been disturbed is remote and difficult of access. Colonel Blair

and Major Probyn have been deputed to enquire into the alleged discontent which gave rise to the disturbance, acting under the direction of the Agent to the Governor General, Rajputana.

RAJENDRA BIKRUM SAH, ex-sovereign of Nepal, who was deposed in 1847, died on the morning of the 13th July. He was the father of the late Adhiraj Surendra Bikrum Sah, Maharaja of Nepal, who died on the 17th May last.

THE GOVERNOR of the Portuguese possessions in India is about to increase taxation in a most arbitrary manner. He proposes to double the tax on cocoanut trees, and to impose a window tax of two annas for each window in a house, and a license tax on all artisans and mechanics.

WE ARE requested to publish the following letter:

13, *Bhuban Banarjee's Lane,*
Chorebagan, Calcutta, 22nd July 1881.

To—THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

SIR,—I must ask you to find place for this in your weekly Journal, as it is in answer to a letter from Munshi Adalat of Duftari Parrah (the quarter inhabited by book-binders) published in your issue of the 4th instant.

The passed College Munshi seems to frighten me with his title; but the languages of which he pretends to be a good teacher are none of them his mother tongue, nor does he know them thoroughly. He cannot speak good "Urdu" and I dare say, he knows not how to speak "Persian." Might I enquire, if he was passed, and if so, passed in what! Was he examined in the higher text by men who were proficient in the languages? He is not looked upon amongst learned Munshis, as being a proficient scholar and I know well that neither he, nor all the College Munshis put together are competent and I challenge them to contradict the remarks contained in my letter to Major Jarret, dated 1st June last.

The fact of the matter is that College Munshis have read a few books, such as lower text-books and as the same text-books have been retained for three quarters of a century, parts generally selected for examination have become well known, and accordingly general readers are taught in those parts for the purpose of passing their examination within a short time. If the new Text-Books be replaced for old ones, it will greatly interfere with this condemnable mode of teaching, which is the whole machinery they apply in their instruction of others. To pass such candidates as cannot be left unpassed is not creditable; but to make them acquainted with the language is what I want, I have little hesitation in stating that no one among A. Khan's pupils can speak a single sentence in "Urdu" and "Persian" with idiomatic accuracy.

The teachers appointed in the College of Fort William to teach officers three quarters of a century ago, were called "College Munshis." Adalat Khan and others are quite wrong in using such an insignificant title, as they were not even born at the time that the College was abolished. To tell the truth non-college Munshis are far superior in every respect to any College Munshis. There have been men among us, who have written and translated works, and we have made considerable addition to the literature of the language we teach. Is there a single example of the kind among the College Munshis? It is a fact that those who do read with Calcutta or College Munshis can not learn much and those who work for the higher examination or with a desire to know the language properly select teachers from our class. I began teaching officers in 1847 and many of my pupils were successfully passed, long before the present class of Munshis began to offer their services and at any rate of remuneration they could get. The rate of my fees has all along been the same, whether the Governors General or Aids-de-Camp, ladies or gentlemen be under my tuition.

I am indeed happy to find one truth in the letter under reply that I am not well up in English. It is, however, wrong to say that I don't know the language to the extent necessary to explain the little books to my pupils, when I am able to speak and to write a little on ordinary subjects. A. Khan ought to prove, if I ever failed in that respect. As regards A. Khan's proficiency in English I am sorry that I have no sufficient knowledge of the language to judge. I beg you Mr. Editor to allow me to quote the remarks made by Mr. F. S. Growse M. A. on Adalat Khan's English translation of the Second-Book of "Ramayana," a text-book in "Hindi."

"And also no doubt from the fact that English was not the mother tongue of the translator, the language employed is throughout so curiously unidiomatic that in many places, it is absolutely unintelligible without a reference to the original."

From this the readers will perceive how sufficiently the Passed College Munshi makes himself intelligible to his foreign pupils.

In conclusion I would have it known that my remarks were not uncalled-for as A. Khan thinks. I was asked by Major Jarret to communicate to him my views and I wrote him frankly and justly what I had to say on the subject referred to me, with a desire that officers should be properly educated so that the interests of the Government and the public might be better secured.

Yours faithfully,
MUNSHI J. N. PANDIT.

THURSDAY, 28TH JULY.

A BALASORE CORRESPONDENT writes:

"There were tremendous downpours here from the 12th to the 18th instant, anything like this had not been witnessed during last two or three years. The rains were attended by a thunder-storm. We have now glorious weather,—the break affords seasonable relief. Some enterprising gentlemen have taken up the project of a Railway to Puri—the line to commence at Ranigange. A Committee has been formed for the promotion of the project, which includes some of the influential persons of the place. An approximate estimate of the cost gives the capital outlay at one-half crore, and the profit at 7½ per cent. It is proposed to solicit Government aid in the shape of a guarantee. What a hideous sight does the stream of pilgrims wending their way homewards present—squalid troops with sunken eyes, emaciated looks and sooty greasy cloth on their persons. All the pilgrim hospitals on the Grand Trunk Road are full to overflowing; cholera prevails in a more or less virulent shape almost at every place in Orissa.

A CORRESPONDENT enquires what causes such a diversity in practice in the levy of fees for the same processes of Court in different districts. For example, the fee for attachment and for proclamation is Rs. 2 each in some places and one rupee in others. Again, in rent-decree execution cases where the tenure is proclaimed for sale, the proclamation fee is Rs. 5 in some districts and one rupee in others. Our correspondent hopes that the Government will redress these inequalities.

WE ARE REQUESTED to mention that the undermentioned gentlemen have contributed the sums standing against their names towards the publication and gratuitous distribution of the Puranas by Babu Protapchunder Roy:

Baboo Rughoonath Doss, Dulalbazar, Dacca, Rs. 100.
„ Doorga Churn Law, Calcutta, Rs. 100.

Pundit Nrising Chunder Mookerjee Vidyaratna, M. A. B. L, has offered his gratuitous services for the translation of the Ramayana, which is under publication and distribution.

A CORRESPONDENT wishes to ventilate the grievances of the subordinate judicial service. His communication is a very lengthy one, for which we are sorry we cannot make room. The hardships to which he alludes are the conditions of admission into the service, and they are, that a candidate for office in the subordinate judicial service must be a pleader of at least three years' standing. He must begin with an officiating appointment under a recommendation from a high official and he must get another in order to be confirmed. Antecedent and subsequent to his appointment as an acting munsiff he must submit to the extortion of the waiting peons of the judge who sits in durbar on Saturdays for the disposal of the patronage of the High Court. Periods of acting appointment do not count towards pension. A letter of recommendation may be an indispensible condition for confirmation, but with this must be coupled the opinion of the District Judge, to secure which many shifts and expedients have to be resorted to. So much for the hardships of admission. Now for the grievances while in the service. There is nobody to fight the battles of the subordinate judicial officers, the High Court, though it may recommend officers for degradation and dismissal, is indifferent to their interests and will not move its little finger to help them. Under a recent circular judicial officers applying for privilege leave must satisfy the Court under what circumstances they were prevented from availing themselves of the vacation leave, and in case they fail to give a satisfactory explanation no leave can be granted on full pay. Here the budget of grievances ends, but we do not think it is complete.

FRIDAY, 29TH JULY.

INFORMATION has been received that the existing prohibition on the export of food grains from the Vilayat of Baghdad, which was necessitated by the dearness of provisions in Irak, has recently been removed.

FROM A report on the Peshawar tea trade with Kabul and Central Asian countries it appears that from October 1880 to January 1881, 2144 mds. of Indian tea and 7,940 mds. of China tea were exported from Peshawar. These figures include the whole of the tea exported over the frontier in the direction of Kabul and Bokhara.

THE BEHAR HERALD says: "The Board of Revenue with the sanction of the Bengal Government have ruled that no liquors are to be drunk in the shops, and that no liquors are to be sold to boys under sixteen years of age, within the Municipality of Patna." But why should this rule be confined to the Municipality of Patna? It ought to be made general.

THE ELASTICITY of the revenues of France is really marvellous. Up to date of the current year, they have exceeded the estimates by £4,000,000. Those estimates are for a revenue sufficient to cover an expenditure of £155,000,000 for the year, including Public Works and Army Reorganisation, representing £41,500,000. The ordinary national expenditure is estimated at £113,500,000. The interest and amortisation charges of the public debt absorb £50,000,000 a year.

THE ENGLISHMAN has now the "best authority" for saying that Mr. Mackenzie, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, has no intention of taking furlough. What "authority" had our contemporary for circulating the original rumour?

WE ARE glad to read in the *Englishman* that there is every probability that the question of granting Sir Ashley Eden an extension of his term of office for the period he was employed as President of the Army Commission, will shortly be decided in the affirmative. This would defer the date of the expiration of Sir Ashley Eden's term of office from May to October of next year.

THE STATE of the weather tends to create some anxiety as to the prospects of the crops next winter. In a few districts such as Beerbhoom, Hooghly, Howrah, 24-Pergunnahs, Backergunge, Chittagong, Noakholly there is just sufficient rain, in Midnapore, Balasore, and Cuttuck there is excessive rain. At Jajpore in the district of Cuttuck the inundations are reported to be the heaviest known for 13 years. Several embankments, especially on the Boiturni, have given way. In Kendraparah, embankments in thanna Aul have burst and two-thirds of the thanna are under water. As to the floods in Cuttuck no material injury will occur, if water runs off in a few days, otherwise the crops will be damaged. There is this consolation, however, that if the plants be now destroyed there is time for another sowing. Except in the districts mentioned above and a few others where there has been barely sufficient rainfall, rain is much wanted in greater part of the districts comprised in the Burdwan, Presidency, Dacca, Pubna and Bhaugulpore Divisions. In some of the districts of these divisions the fields are said to be dry. Fever is making its appearance in the Meherpore and Choadanga sub-divisions and also at Krishnaghur.

THE FOLLOWING story comes to us from Assam. We summarize the letter of a correspondent. Mr. Ward, the Judge of the Assam Valley Districts, says our correspondent, is opposed to ryots possessing heritable and transferable rights. In his opinion they have no property in the *kheraj* lands they hold, but are mere tenants-at-will. He accordingly directed that no sale, gift or mortgage of such lands should be recognized by the Subordinate Civil Courts or registered by the Registrars, and that in cases involving disputes about land the Courts "should not look behind the Patta," but give decrees to the Pattahholders for the time being. He had obtained the permission of the late Chief Commissioner to frame a regulation under the title of the "Revenue Regulations of Assam." He has submitted the draft of this Regulation, the provisions of which regarding the rights of the ryots are in keeping with the judgments he has passed. But the present Chief Commissioner does not agree with him, and the draft regulation consequently remains in abeyance. In the meantime the judicial decisions of Mr. Ward, have been upset by the High Court.

SATURDAY, 30TH JULY.

THERE WERE 176 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 23rd July, of which 11 were from fevers, none from cholera, 58 from fever, 16 from bowel-complaints, 2 from wounds and accidents, 8 from asthma and pthisis, 8 from spleen diseases, 28 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Ten children were still-born, 51 died between the ages of 15 days and under and above 15 days and under one year, 26 persons died at the age of 60 and upward. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races, the deaths were only 5. The average of daily mortality was 25·1.

WE UNDERSTAND that there is no truth in the rumour that Shazada Ferrokh Shah of the Mysore Family goes to England.

ACCORDING to a Madras paper, Mir Feroze Hossein Khan of the Carnatic Family, proceeds to England shortly. This gentleman is related by marriage to the late Ghulam Mahomed Ghouse Khan, the last of the Nawabs of the Carnatic, and it is said that he is going to England with a view to represent to the proper authorities "matters connected with the affairs of the Carnatic."

MR. J. DACOSTA has addressed a letter to the *Daily Chronicle* of London on the Indian Budget, from which we make the following extract:

When sober-minded and thoughtful persons find that, in spite of constant additions to taxation, loans have annually to be raised for supplementing the revenue; that the cost of the army on its peace footing has increased by millions without any addition being made to its numerical strength or its efficiency; that, while the revenue is generally admitted to be inelastic, its main sources are actually becoming less productive, in spite of enhanced assessments; that millions of acres of land have been thrown out of cultivation under the pressure of arbitary assessments of the land-tax; that official reports ascribe the increased mortality of recent years to the greater poverty of the people and to constitutional weakness among them produced by insufficiency of food; that crime according to official statistics, has greatly increased of late years, and fiscal exactions and the fear of new fiscal demands have incited rebellion in various districts, needing military operations and heavy expenditure for its suppression—when all these things are proclaimed in official documents, where there is no interest to exaggerate the evil, and when we constantly hear from authoritative as well as independent sources that the finances of India are in a very critical condition, what must be the effect on the minds of thoughtful

Digitized with financial assistance from the National Archives of India on 07 August, 2017

men, when the Indian Finance Minister, whose statement is annually looked for with anxiety, comes forward to declare, as in the present instance, that the finances of India are "prosperous" and "afford no ground for alarm," justifying his statement by the plea that but for the war and cost of productive public works, "the revenue would have exceeded the expenditure?" The facts which would expose the hollowness of such ground are kept out of sight—namely, that by burdening India with the cost of a war waged in furtherance of the foreign policy of Great Britain, a precedent is established which exposes the limited resources of India to claims which may any day exceed those resources and bring ruin upon the country; and that the so-called productive public works (the true character of which has repeatedly been exposed by Lord Salisbury, when speaking under official responsibility) are unsuited to the wants of the people have been constructed at unduly heavy expense, and are being worked at a serious loss, necessitating fresh loans or additional taxation for discharging the interest on the capital borrowed for their construction.

THE SUBURBAN Rate-Payers' Association is working admirably. The Association, we are glad to observe has taken up the question of the illegality of the assessment of tanks, gardens &c. for night-soil service, though no service is rendered on account thereof. We hear the Advocate General has altered his original opinion and now holds that the night-soil service tax can be levied only for service done.

SAYS THE SATURDAY EVENING ENGLISHMAN: "Forbidden fruit is sweet, and perhaps no grown-up man ever so thoroughly enjoys an apple as one stolen from a neighbour's tree when a boy." This is *in re* some apples he has himself enjoyed lately. We hope the consequences will not be any thing like what Adam and Eve had to complain of for indulging in a similar indiscretion.

IN OUR newscolumn of last week the name of Dr. Bhau Daji was by a slip of the pen included among the literary Parsis of Bombay.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Thirteenth Annual Report of the Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal for 1880. 2. Report on Education in the Central Provinces for 1880-81. 3. Report of tours in Bundelkhand and Malwa in 1874-75 and 1876-77 (Archæological Survey of India) Vol. X. By Major-General Cunningham C. S. I. C. I. E. 4. Report of tours in the Gangetic Provinces from Budaon to Bihar in 1875-76 and 1877-78, Vol. XI. By Do. 5. A Review in Bengali and English of Babu Radhikaprosunno Mookerjee's Swasthya-Raksha, 17th Edition. 6. The 18th Annual Report of the Uttarparah Hitkari Sabha, 1880-81. 7. Catalogue of Beautiful and Rare Plants offered by S. P. Chatterjee, Victoria Nursery, 78 Narcoledanga Main Road, Calcutta. 8. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, No. V. May, 1881. 9. Report of the Quinologist for 1880-81. 10. Government Resolution on the Annual Report of the Bhaugulpore District for 1880-81. 11. Bheem Bikram—a Poem in Bengali. By Sosheebhoosun Dass. 12. Shahitya-Shopana or steps to learning. By Sarutchunder Chowdhry (Mymensing.) 13. Saddarshana Chintanika or Studies in Indian Philosophy. Vol. V. No. 5, May, 1881. 14. Arya Durshuna—a Bengali monthly, Vol. VI. Nos. 10 and 11. 16. Harratattva Didhithi or a commentary on the religious vyavasthas of the Hindus, quoted from various Tantras. By the illustrious Harakumar Tagore published by Raja Sourindra Mohun Tagore, Music Doctor, C. I. E.

WE HAVE received the following telegrams from the Press Commissioner's Office:

Simla, July 26th—The latest news from Kandahar, dated 22nd July, reports that Ayub had arrived with his forces at Khwaja Ahmed, two marches from Girishk, and that some negotiations were supposed to be going on between the two camps. Reinforcement are reported on their way from Kabul to Kandahar.

27th.—There is a report from Kandahar that Ayub's army has succeeded in crossing the Helmound below Girishk, and is marching towards Kandahar by Band-i-Taimer on the Argandeb.

28th.—News has reached Chaman that an action was fought on the 27th, in the morning, between the forces of the Amir and Ayub. It lasted till 11 A.M., when one of the Amir's regiments went over to Ayub's side and the rest of the Amir's troops then dispersed. The guns and baggage were lost.

29th.—Details, as far as can be gathered regarding the action on the 27th, are as follows:—Ayub's force took up a position on rising ground at Karez-i-Atta facing the north, the guns in front, and the Cavalry on the left of the position of the Amir's force facing the south, drawn up in column with the guns in front of the Cavalry, and on the right the baggage treasure, &c., to the right rear of the Infantry. Ayub sent his Cavalry round the right flank of the Amir's force to attack the baggage. The Amir's Cavalry engaged Ayub's Cavalry when they got completely round the right flank, and here to the right rear of the baggage. In the meantime Ayub's Infantry had come into the plain in line, and his right was attacked and driven back by two of the Amir's regiments, but being reinforced, he, in his turn, drove back these two regiments on to the guns. The other two regiments in reserve do not appear to have been engaged, and the repulse ended in a general flight.

30th.—No news from Candahar to-day. The account of battle given by a Sirdar who was present, seems to show that it was lost solely by bad generalship. He reports that only six guns and one regiment out of four were brought into action. Ghulam Hydar in column of regiments received Ayub's attack in line. Ayub had collected only four or five hundred horse and as many ill-armed foot. Among Duranis all the Zamindawar Chiefs and ther Sowars remained faithful to the Amir to the last.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, July 25.—The latest advices from Natal state that a hitch has occurred in the negotiations at Pretoria, the British Commissioners refusing to recognise Mr. Buryokes, the Boers' nominee, for carrying out the financial arrangments. The Dutch Jury, in the trial of six of the alleged murderers of Paymaster Elliot, have returned a verdict of not guilty. Six dynamite infernal machines have been seized at Liverpool, where they were discovered conceald in cement barrels on the ship Malta, just arrived from America.

26th.—In the House of Commons. last night, Sir Michael Hicks Beach proposed a vote of want of confidence in the Government with respect to their Transvaal policy, which was defeated by 314 votes againt 226. The Secretary of State, Home Department, made a statement in the House concerning the seizure of dynamite infernal machines in Liverpool. He stated that Government had been forewarned three weeks ago of their expected arrival. Four more machines have been seized on board the steamer Bavarian, also from New York, the importation of these machines is solely attributable to Fenians. A constable has been shot down at Longhrea, Ireland.

27th.—In accordance with the advice of his Doctor, Mr. Gladstone has declined to be present at a proposed public banquet to be given to the Cabinet. Neither the shippers nor the consignees of the infernal machines seized in Liverpool have yet been discovered. The American press urge a strict enquiry into the matter and severe punishment of the guilty parties. The Official *Gazette* publishes a royal warrant giving the following changes:—54 Generals, 67 Lieutenant-Generals and 41 Major-Generals to be placed on the retired list. Major-Generals Westmacott, Menzies, Sir R. Lattan, all engineers, to be promoted to Lieutenant-Generals. Generals Lord Napier of Magdala and Sir Arthur Borton, Lieutenant-General Hamilton, Major-Generals Murray and Nelson to be placed on the supernumerary list. General Sir A. Becher, Lieutenant-Generals Olpherts, Maxwell, and Rundall, and Major-General Mackintire, on the unemployed supernumerary list.

28th.—Official despatches have been published concerning Tripoli, in which Lord Granville warns France of the dangers attending her interference in Tripoli, and further states that England cannot tolerate interference of any kind in that quarter. Lord Dufferin has been instructed to urge upon the Porte the urgent necessity of moderation in respect to Tripoli, M. Barthelemy Saint Hilaire has, in reply, explicitly disclaimed any design of the French Government on Tripoli, and admitted the sovereignty of the Sultan.

28th.—Advices from the Transvaal state that the Dutch Jury have returned a verdict of not guilty in the trial of the alleged murderers of Mr. Malcolm.

29th—The hitch in the negotiations at Pretoria has been removed, and a settlement is shortly expected. England retains the right of passage for her troops through the Transvaal and will control the Foreign relations. The duties of the British Resident in the Transvaal will be the same as those of a Consul General. Failing the Volksraad ratification of the convention in three months, the Queen's sovereignty will be revived.

29th.—The *Times* in discussing Ayub's success express its satisfaction that neither England nor India is directly interested in the struggle now going on in Afghanistan. The *Daily News* says that Ayub's victory cannot affect the policy of the Government, and that the Viceroy need only wait and let Afghan politics develope themselves. The Conservative papers express indignation at the results of the policy of the Government in respect to Afghanistan.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Tuesday, the 2nd August, at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Behaviour of Electricity in Vecua, Crookes' Researches.

Practical Class in Chemistry under Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F. C. S., F. I. C., on Wednesday, the 3rd Inst, at 5 P. M.

Lecture by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on Thursday, the 4th Inst., at 7½ P. M.

Subject: The Moon.

Lecture by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S, F.I.C. on Saturday, the 6th Inst., at 3 P. M.

Subject: Manganese, Nickel and Cobalt.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 1881.

THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE AMENDMENT BILL.

X.

CHAPTER XXXVII of Mr. Whitley Stokes' Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill relates to State prisoners. The reader will recollect that this chapter recently formed the subject of an interpellation in the House of Commons. Mr. O'Donnell, M. P. for Dungarvan, who takes such a keen interest in the welfare of the teeming millions of this country, asked the Secretary of State, "whether his attention had been drawn to the proposal to incorporate in the Indian Criminal Code as permanent clauses the provisions of certain Acts of the years 1817 and 1818, by which the Governor-General of India or Lieutenant-Governor of a Presidency may imprison at pleasure, without trial for any period, any person suspected of being concerned in any commotion or agitation in British India or any protected Native States, and also to attach for any period at pleasure any property belonging to such persons without any appeal to any court ordinarily having jurisdiction in cases of property, whether the only exceptions in the whole of India to the permanent operation of the proposed coercions were declared to be the European subjects of Her Majesty in India; whether the passing of such a measure of coercion exclusively against the Natives of India had received the sanction of the Home Government; and, if so, whether he would state the grounds for reviving in the present year coercion Acts of extreme severity dating from the years 1817 and 1818 at a time of general war in India." The Marquis of Hartington stated in reply to Mr. O'Donnell, that his attention had been called to the point referred to by the Hon'ble Member for Dungarvan. His Lordship added: "As those Acts did not form part of the criminal law, it appeared open to doubt whether they ought to have been included in the Bill for the consolidation of the criminal law. The attention of the Government of India will be directed to the point."

This is really a wonder that the Law Member should have incorporated the provisions of Regulation III of 1818 in his Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, without a single word of explanation either in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill, or in his speech delivered in the Legislative Council on the occasion of the introduction of the measure. Was not the matter of sufficient importance to call for notice? We have Lord Hartington's admission that Regulation III. of 1818 does not form part of the criminal law; yet Mr. Whitley Stokes quietly incorporated the provisions of that Regulation in his Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill without in any way drawing the attention of the public to the matter. The Law Member has explained both in the Statement of Objects and Reasons as well in his speech in the Legislative Council the considerations which urged him to transfer to the Criminal Procedure Code, sections 9 and 10 of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act (XXI. of 1879), which deal respectively with the liability of British subjects for offences committed out of British India, and with the reception in evidence of depositions made before Political Agents. Were the provisions relating to State-prisoners less important than these? The Law Member cannot blame the public if they put an unfavourable construction upon his silence on this point. We can scarcely persuade ourselves to believe that the omission of which we are speaking was purely accidental. A little reflection will show that it was the bounden duty of the Law Member to explain the reason why he thought fit to transfer to the Criminal Procedure Code provisions which did not form part of the criminal law. The neglect of this duty remains to be accounted for.

Mr. O'Donnell rightly observes, that the Coercion Act of 1818 the provisions of which Mr. Whitley Stokes has incorporated in his Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill was passed at a time of general war in India. The peculiar circumstances of the country at the critical time may have justified the passing of a Coercion Act of such extreme severity as Regulation III. of 1818. The invidious distinction which that Regulation makes between the European and Native subjects of Her Majesty has been clearly pointed out by Mr. O'Donnell. Section 491 of the Bill lays down that whenever the Governor-General of India or a provincial Governor is of opinion that, for the maintenance of the alliances formed by the British Government with foreign powers, the preservation of tranquillity in the territories of Native Princes and states entitled to protection for the security of the British dominions from foreign hostility or internal commotion, any person should be placed under personal restraint without any immediate view to ulterior procedings, such person may be detained as a State-prisoner in

any fortress, jail or other place within British India. This is a repetition, in a modified shape, of the preamble of Sections 2 and 3 of Regulation III of 1818. It will be in the recollection of the reader that it was under the provisions of that Regulation that Ameer Khan the Wahabee, was detained under the authority of the Government of Bengal as a State-prisoner in 1870, without any immediate intention of instituting judicial proceedings against him. Whether, having regard to the circumstances of India at the present time, it is desirable to keep Regulation III of 1818 on the Statute-book is a question which we are not called upon to discuss in this place. It may or may not be expedient to repeal that Regulation; but there can be no doubt whatever that its provisions ought not to be incorporated in the Criminal Procedure Code. As Lord Hartington himself has admitted in plain terms that the provisions in question do not form part of the Criminal law, it is unnecessary to pursue the matter any further.

Certain directions of the nature of a *habeas corpus* are contained in Section 501 of the Bill. These are so important that we think it desirable to reproduce them here. Section 501 runs as follows: "Any of the High Courts of Judicature at Fort William, Madras and Bombay may, whenever it thinks fit to direct (*a*) that a person within the limits of its ordinary original criminal jurisdiction be brought up before the Court to be dealt with according to law; (*b*) that a person illegally or improperly detained in public or private custody within such limits be set at liberty; (*c*) that a prisoner detained in any jail situate within such limits be brought before the Court to be there examined, as a witness in any matter pending to be enquired into in such Court; (*d*) that a prisoner detained as aforesaid be brought before a Court-martial or any Commissioner acting under the authority of any Commission from the Governor General in Council for trial, or to be examined touching any matter depending before such Court-martial or Commissioners respectively; (*e*) that a prisoner within such limits be removed from one custody to another for the purpose of trials; (*f*) that the body of a defendant within such limits may be brought in on the Sheriff's return of *cepi corpus* to a writ of attachment." The section further gives the High Courts power to frame rules to regulate the procedure in such cases. It would have been much better if the procedure to be followed in such cases had been defined in the law. There has of late years grown a great tendency to give the executive power to provide by rules for matters which ought to be definitively set at rest by the Legislature. The procedure in cases under Chapter XXXVIII of the Bill ought to be uniform; but uniformity could only be secured by definite provisions in the law. There can be no doubt that the consequence of the exercise by each High Court of the power to frame rules to regulate the procedure in this class of cases will be that different modes of procedure will be prescribed by the different High Courts. Mr. Whitley Stokes takes care to provide that nothing in section 501 of his Bill applies to State-prisoners, under the preceding chapter.

It is superfluous to comment on this provision when the Secrerary of State for India, distinctly says, that it appears open to doubt whether Regulation III of 1818, ought to have been included in the Bill for the consolidation of the criminal law. We cannot conclude this article without giving our warmest thanks to Mr. O'Donnell for drawing the attention of the House of Commons to this important subject. He has laid our countrymen under a fresh obligation. He so cleverly and strongly puts the case in his question to the Secretary of State that Lord Hartington had no other resource left than to confess judgment. We hope the attention of the Government of India has already been directed to the point. Mr. Whitley Stokes has a bad habit of making changes under the garb of consolidation without drawing the attention of the public to them; but in this instance he has received a check which, we hope, will make him more careful in the future.

JAIL ADMINISTRATION.

WE quoted last week the interpellations in Parliament regarding mortality and flogging in our jails. The subject now engages the attention of the Government of India, and the public ought to contribute their quota to its elucidation. It is interesting to enquire as to whether the rate of mortality in the jails of the other Provinces has increased as in Bengal owing to the introduction of the diet scale of the Prison Conference. It is noteworthy that while the mortality in the Bengal jails has attracted serious notice, little or nothing has been said about the mortality in the Jails of those provinces, which are usually considered much healthier than Bengal, but where the state of mortality is much greater. This we must say is due to the discussion started by the Inspector General and the Lieutenant-Governor himself. It was Dr. Lethbridge who discussed the subject in his report for 1879, and the Lieutenant-Governor spoke out in his usual above-board manner. The other local Governments have remained silent on the subject. But let that pass. Adding the rates of mortality in the different provinces which adopted the Conference Diet Scale for 1878 and 1879 we find that they were as follows:

Bombay	...	...	11·7
Punjab	...	...	10·68
Madras	...	...	9·14
Central Provinces		...	9·48
Bengal	...	...	8·49

Bengal is a notoriously unhealthy province, and yet it shews the lowest rate of mortality.

It is observable that active steps have been taken by the Bengal Government for the sanitary improvement of our jails. The following are some of the improvements that deserve notice. The water supply of all our jails has received special attention; new wells have been sunk and pumps substituted for the ordinary native methods of raising water. The three Calcutta jails have for the last year been supplied with filtered water from the Municipal water works. Special water works have been provided for the large jails of Bhaugulpore, Buxar and Hooghly. The Burisal jail receives its water supply from the main river by a special arrangement of water boats and pumps. A standard plan of filter was issued in 1879 for adoption in all jails where the water required filtering. Under recent orders every jail is to be provided with such a filter. Bathing platforms have been provided in every jail and the prisoners no longer bathe in filthy tanks and round the mouth of wells as they used to do.

Clothing.—The improvement in the quality and quantity of clothing allowed to each prisoner has been most marked since the manufacture of jail clothing was made the special industry of two of the Central jails. Last year every prisoner was provided with a woollen coat. Throughout the year each prisoner is allowed 2 blankets in his bedding. The new system of boiling and washing the clothing has had a marked effect in destroying vermin and keeping the clothing clean.

Labour.—Special rules for the employment of prisoners on extramural labour have been issued. Under these rules prisoners, employed in out-door labour are allowed 2 hours' rest in barracks after the morning meal and during the heat of the day. The greatest benefit is however now being derived from what is known as the "Weight Test." Under this system every prisoner is weighed once a fortnight and his weight recorded in a particular part of the labour ticket. Superintendent, Jailor and Warders can now see at a glance when a man is losing weight and can immediately change his labor or reduce his task. Where there are fixed tasks for all prisoners it is only by a careful working of this system that Jail officers can appreciate the effect that a certain quality or kind of work is having on each individual prisoner. The punishment of prisoners for short work who are losing weight is forbidden. This system is getting better understood by Jail officials, and is now worked with the greatest care in most jails. Not the least important result of the "Weight Test" is the very early detection of loss of health. This in a country where diseases like dysentery run a very acute course is of the greatest importance. This particular feature of prison sanitary work which has for the first time been systematically tried in our jails, will, it is hoped, be followed by beneficial results.

Accommodation.—Over-crowding the great cause of mortality in jails worked on the principle of association is now absolutely unknown in Bengal. By a special system of returns punctually submitted on the 1st of each month it has for some years been possible by ordering immediate transfers, to obviate all chance of over-crowding. Sir Ashley Eden very shortly after assuming charge of the province was struck with the very unsatisfactory state of many of the Jail buildings. In consequeuce of the great insecurity and unhealthiness of the huts which composed many of our jails, orders were issued to provide proper accommodation for all the prison population of the province. Special designs were sanctioned for Jail barracks by which the prisoners in the main-barracks will at night be raised 14 feet off the ground. This sanitary precaution in a highly malarious province like Bengal is one that will, it is hoped, be followed by the best results. In 1878 the Government sanctioned the building of 8 entirely new jails on the standard plan and extensive alterations and improvements in 7 others. These works are approaching completion and it is believed that the new jails will be ready by June 1882. It has for many years been a well known fact that prisoners engaged in making bricks and building new jails have from some cause or another been very unhealthy. This tendency to loss of health was greatly aggravated by the diet scale suggested by the Prison Conference. Brick making for the new works began in the cold weather of 1878. In April 1879, the Conference scale of diet was brought into force. In February and March 1880 the Inspector-General of Jails while inspecting someof the jails under construction notices the extreme unhealtiness of the prisoners employed in them. On his return to Calcutta at the end of March 1880, he was in a position to consult the medical statistics for 1879 which had just been compiled. He lost no time in communicating to the Government the serious change that had taken place in the health of the jails. Sir Ashley Eden at once ordered a Committee consisting of Dr. Payne, the Surgeon General, Dr. Coates, the Principal of the Medical College, and Dr. Lethbridge, Inspector General of Jails, to enquire into the causes of this increased sickness and mortality. The Committee having considered the medical statistics for 1879 and also the previous sanitary history of the jails of Bengal, came unanimously to the conclusion that the Conference scale of diet was insufficient and recommended immediate steps to be taken to improve it. Extra food was given and an early morning meal instituted. The result of this increase in diet is clearly set forth in the last Jail Administration Report, which we reviewed two weeks back. There was a remarkable decrease in the death rate in the months following the introduction of the extra diet, and the yearly mortality was reduced from 9·48 in 1879 to 6 35 in 1880. In considering the sickness and mortality of certain Jails, and especially of certain district Jails it is necessary to bear in mind that jails like Baraset and Dinagepore were set apart for the reception of aged and sick prisoners. It is also essential to a right understanding of the subject to know that certain districts are extremely unhealthy and that a large proportion of the prisoners admitted into the jails of those districts, arrive in a very unhealthy condition. This is particularly the case in most of the Sub-Himalayan districts such as Rungpore, Julpigoree, Purneah, Chumparun and Bogra. It is further important to know that in transferring prisoners from District to Central jails for special industries only healthy prisoners are selected. In course of time the district jails come to have a very large proportion of old and sickly men. This accounts for the fact that Central jails are now much healthier than district jails. This difference will in time be more marked as the Central jail system is further developed.

As regards increase in flogging we find that it is partly due to the action taken by Sir George Campbell in 1872. Sir George made an entire change in the system under which Jail offences were recorded. Every little irregularity began to be recorded as an offence, for which corporal punishment was prescribed. The result was that the number of Jail offences rose from 2,445 in 1866 to 25,615 in 1876. A further

change was made in 1878, which has led to the increase of recorded Jail offences from 31,584 in 1878 to 61,832 in 1880. The change referred to was the entire reorganisation of the Jail service. Jail Warders actually in charge of the prisoners were substituted for police sentries on the walls, who were only responsible for the safe custody of the prisoners and consequently took no notice of short work or offences against discipline. In addition to this the higher grades of the Jail service were improved by trained Jailors and Deputy Jailors in Central jails. Under these changes the discipline in Bengal jails has undoubtedly become more strict, and faults and offences are now noticed which were not recorded in previous years. The great increase in the number of those reported for short work is a case in point. Tasks are more carefully measured and jails with special industries cannot now allow short work to pass unnoticed. In this way the number of offences has increased, and consequently the number of corporal punishments. We hope the Lieutenant-Governor will now see the necessity of relaxing the present rigorous system. The forms of penal labour are very exacting and painful. They were also introduced by Sir George Campbell, and at the time we pointed out their extreme severity. We have already referred to the system of weighment introduced by Sir Ashley Eden. Every prisoner is weighed every fortnight, and if he loses weight, he is immediately put on lighter labour. This is certainly a good check, but we are of opinion that unless the present severity of labour be mitigated and the practice of counting as a prison offence any short work in prison industry be discontinued, the improvement in the health of the prisoners, aimed at by the Lieutenant-Governor, we fear will not be attained.

THE CONTROL ON MILITARY ACCOUNTS.

THE disgraceful failure in the Afghan War estimates necessarily led to an examination of the system of Military Accounts. In the beginning of July 1880, the Secretary of State for India appointed a Committee to report on the present system, and to suggest reforms with a view to prevent the recurrence of such failures in the future. The Committee was composed of Mr. Edmond Drummond, as Chairman, and of Sir Thomas Seccombe, Sir George Kellner, Mr. R. E. Welby, Mr. W. H. White, and Mr. E. F. Harrison as members with Mr. R. Mills as Secretary. The Committee have submitted an elaborate report. They observe at the outset: "There can be no doubt that the inherent tendency of the present system is to induce reliance upon the records of finally audited charges, and to lose sight of the real expenditure which is being incurred. The objections to the system in this respect, and its dangers in connexion with the mode of dealing with the outstanding unadjusted charges, were clearly pointed out by Colonel Broome (then Comptroller-General of Military Expenditure) in his report of 29th February, 1868, and his conclusion, that 'care and constant usefulness' would be necessary to guard against the evils to which he drew attention has been fully justified by the event. In fact, no system of finance can be considered complete, which does not provide for automatic and prompt transmission to the Financial Member of Council of accurate information of the progress of the revenue and expenditure. In England, a daily record is kept by the Treasury of the total sums coming into and going out of the Exchequer account, and a weekly statement is, a matter of departmental regulation, laid before the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is thus automatically and accurately informed of the aggregate receipts and issues of the expired portion of the year, as compared with the Budget Estimate and also of the Exchequer balances at any time available. In India, there is no *automatic* system by which the Government is informed at the earliest possible moment of the amount of the outgoings from the treasuries. In regard to issues for military services during the Afgan War, the materials available for this purpose were left unutilized, and the Government was only informed, some six or eight weeks after date, of the expenditure which had been audited, and remained in ignorance for several months of large sums actually expended, but not finally brought to account." But if the Government of India had exercised "care and constant watchfulness," which it was undoubtedly their duty to do, it could have easily ascertained at any moment the amount of the actual outgoing from the treasuries. As the Committee justly remarked, the materials available for this purpose were not utilized by the Government of India during the Affghan War. So far there can be no room for any difference of opinion. The Committee rightly hold that the blunder in the estimates of the Affghan war, is due rather to deficiencies in the executive agency, and to the constant changes of *personnel* than to defects of system. In this conclusion every intelligent and unprejudiced person will concur.

The Committee, in their report, submit numerous suggestions and recommendations. But at the same time they explain that the adoption of the measures which they recommend with a view to the removal of existing defects will not alone suffice to prevent irregularities, especially in times of financial pressure. They wrote:— "The Financial Member of the Council of India like the Chancellor of the Exchequer at Home, should be held responsible for the maintenance of financial order, and the committee desire to express their conviction that whatever arrangements may be made in regard to the prompt transmission to the financial authorities of accurate statements of the progress of income and expenditure, a recurrence of serious errors, similar in their nature, to that which led to the appointment of this Committee, can be only fully guarded against by the exercise of constant watchfulness on the part of the Financial Department of the Government." Well said. If the Financial Department should wilfully shut its eyes to obvious facts, no system, however excellent it may be, can prevent a recurrence of serious errors like that which has utterly ruined the reputation of Sir John Strachey. The most important recommendation made by the Committee are the following:— "That it is absolutely necessary to establish a system by which the Government shall be informed of the receipts and issues of the civil treasuries of the country at a much earlier period than that at which accounts of audited expenditure could under any circumstances be rendered; that as the desired information can be obtained only from the civil treasuries, every treasury officer should be required to prepare and transmit to the Comptroller-General on the first day of each month a concise abstract statement of all cash transactions of his treasury during the month then ended, showing also the cash in hand at the commencement and close of the month. That a general monthly statement for all India be prepared from these returns, showing commutative totals for the expired period of the current financial year and comparing those totals with the results of the corresponding period of the next preceding financial year, as well with the Budget estimate of the current year; and that in the financial account of India, the issues from the civil treasuries for carrying military and other services be treated as expenditure, in accordance with the practice as regards exchequer issues in England." The Committee remark:—"This is the only safe system for financial purposes, because the issues from the treasuries do, in fact, represent the amount of expenditure for which funds have been necessarily provided. The opposite course of basing the figures in the finance accounts upon the results of audit is essentially unsafe because it practically excludes from view, in a comparison with Budget estimates, considerable charges awaiting audit and settlement, and payments out of issues for which accounts have not been rendered, and it thus presents a very erroneous view of the actual financial position." This suggestion will commend itself to the common sense of the thinking portion of the community. There is no reason why there should be any difference between the practice in England and India in this matter. The Secretary of State entirely concurs in the opinion expressed by the Committee, that it is absolutely necessary to establish a system by which the Government of India shall be informed of the receipts and outgoings of the civil treasuries of the country at a much earlier period than that at which accounts of audited expenditure could be rendered. Lord Hartington pertinently remarks that the importance of obtaining accurate information regarding the issues from the civil treasuries for military services during the war ought not to have been overlooked by the many high authorities concerned in the preparation or acceptance of the Affghan war estimates. The suggestions made by the Committee that the issues from the civil treasuries should be treated as expenditure in accordance with the practice as regards Exchequer issues in England, has also been adopted. Major Evelyn Baring expresses his entire concurrence in the remarks which have been made by the Committee on this point.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee a change has lately been made in the duties of the Comptroller-General and the Military Accountant-General, and their official relations towards each other has been more clearly defined. "The Comptroller-General," Major Baring said in his Budget Statement for 1881-82," will be the chief authority in all matters affecting the mode of keeping the public accounts including those of the military and other spending departments. It will be solely responsible for the General Famine Accounts, and will be the recognized channel for information in regard to the financial position as indicated in those accounts. He will be answerable for watching the issues for military and all other services and keeping the Government informed as to the actual progress of both revenue and expenditure. The Military Accountant-General will occupy the position and exercise the authority of a Deputy Secretary for Finance in the Military Department, retaining his present duties, and will be specially charged with the function of watching and reporting upon the current military expenditure." This is as it should be. And the measure announced in April last has been carried out by the Resolution just passed. Lastly, the Committee recommend the establishment in London of a final revising authority, combining both permanence and technical skill. They say:—"We would suggest that the duty of examining and criticising the auditor's report should be delegated, on behalf of the Secretary of State to a Committee, and that the Secretary of State, in the appointment of that Committee, should not be restricted to any particular class of officials, but be free to select the best man he can find in England. Such a Committee would doubtless be composed in great part of members of the India Council, or officers of the India Department, most competent to criticise the report; but it is very desirable that with them should be associated one or two persons conversant with financial administration and the principles of audit, but altogether independent of India. The function of the reviewing Committee would be limited to the final review of the Indian accounts, and would in no way affect the higher function of the Council as defined by the act for the better Government of India. As a body of experts, dealing with questions of account, the reviewing Committee could hardly fail to afford important aid to the constituted authorities in the financial administration of India." We agree with the Committee that a final revising authority ought to be established in England. But we think that at least one-half of the members of the reviewing Committee should be persons altogether independent of, and unconnected with, India.

THE ASSAM EMIGRATION BILL.

THE Tea-planters of Assam have been carrying on agitation for some time past for an amendment of the Assam Emigration Law. The agitation has not been confined to this country. An Association has been formed in England, which keeps up a running fire upon the Secretary of State for India. But apart from the pressure of the Association private influence of an irresistible description is in active work. There is perhaps not an influential European in this country, official or non-official, who has not shares in Tea, and many of the old Indians, who have retired, have invested their savings in tea. These are the men who constitute our governing class, and they have a direct personal interest in the relaxation of the rigours of the law regarding

the employment of labor in the tea-districts. It is they who make the law, for practically it is their opinion, which shapes the course of legislation,and we are not therefore surprised that the amendment of the law has been taken up by Government in right earnest. We do not mean to say that the time has not arrived for a modification of the law. We admit that a great change has taken place in the character of the personnel in the management of tea-estates. The brutes who delighted in flogging coolies have for the most part quitted the scene. On the other hand there has been an immense expansion of the Tea industry. As the Hon'ble Mr. Thompson said, that, whereas in 1850, the whole area did not reach more than about 1,000 acres, in the present year, taking in all parts of the country where the plant is grown, it extends to more than 200,000 acres. Of this acreage, the greater proportion pertains to the tea districts to which the present labour-law applies. Then, again, within the period to which I have referred, the out turn of tea has increased from 250,000 pounds to the respectable figure of 40 million pounds. The capital invested is represented as a nounting to fifteen millions, and it is also said that there is an annual expenditure of two millions in the maintenance of the plantations. Such a large expenditure of money cannot but be beneficial to the country. The Tea Districts Association in London complain that the law interposes difficulties in the way of employment of labour. They say, "tea culture alone, apart from other products, is capable of almost indefinite expansion. Land and capital can be found in abundance, and the sole impediment to its continuous development is the difficulty of obtaining an adequate supply of labour, in terms admitting of its profitable employment. This hindrance to progress does not arise from the inability of the industry to afford the wages necessary to render labour highly remunerative to the immigrant, but from the excessive cost of recruitment and transport, largely due, in the opinion of all tea growers, to the stringency of the labour laws." They ask, "that the period of contract for emigrant labourers to Assam, which, under the present law, is limited to three years, should be extended to a maximum of five years." Then they want a complete recognition of the free labour system. Mr. Thompson said: "Under the law of 1873, as it stood, though recruiting by the private agency of the employer was recognised, and certain limitations and restrictions were placed upon it (that was upon the system by which planters tried to obtain labour for themselves), which hindered the development of that system, and it was in that direction principally that a much less restricted action was possible, both in extending the operations of private enterprise, in a matter in which private enterprise was chiefly concerned, and also in tending to the abolition of the contractor system in Calcutta, and elsewere, which in my judgment, is one of the chief causes of delay and expense connected with emigration to Assam." The Committee, to whom the subject was referred for report, say:

From the official and other papers laid before us, and from our own personal knowledge of the subject, we find that the present Labour Districts Emigration Act is defective, in respect chiefly of the points numbered I to IV below :—

"I. In that it does not afford sufficient encouragement to free emigration.

"II. In that it imposes unnecessary restrictions upon sardari recruiting.

"III. In that it fails to provide for the enforcement of contracts, made otherwise than under the provisions of the Act itself, even in the case of imported labourers.

"IV. In respect of the remedies provided for employers, in the event of the unlawful absence or desertion of their contract labourers."

Mr. Thompson remarked: "It will thus be seen that the recommendations extend over the whole scope of the present emigration law, and include various other details. If the Council have gone along with me, I think it will be accepted that a clear necessity has arisen for the revision of the present law. I will now only say that very few modifications of principle at any rate, have been introduced by the recommendations of the Committee at Calcutta, and that we are still concerned rather in contending jealously for two points: 1—that, in the first recruitment of a labourer for distant employment, he should be clearly made to understand the nature of his engagement, for, after all, these labourers are credulous, ignorant and simple beings; 2—that, in cordially promoting, as far as we can, the system of free immigration, we desire to protect the labourer for at least the first few years of his residence in Assam, because it would be to him a strange and new country." We reserve remarks till we see Mr. Thompson's Bill. In the meantime we must say that the necessity of proper regulation of even the free labour system has not wholly disappeared. The Garden Sirdar System as it is called has abuses, which ought not to be overlooked.

PEACOCK-SHOOTING AND A CONCILIATORY CIVILIAN.

WHAT is a "Conciliatory Civilian?" We take him to be one, who conciliates the feelings and prejudices of the people of this country, who is not given to violence, who is prepared to make due allowance for the sentiments and opinions of those, among whom he has cast in his lot. Such a man is said to be Mr. F. S. Lely of the Bombay Civil Service, an officer of the Talukdari settlement in Gužerat. We believe this "conciliatory civilian" in Lord Lytton's time wrote a paper in support of the Vernacular Press Act. This gentleman seems to be fond of shooting, and he lately went on a shooting excursion into a Taluk named Viramgaum. He shot some peacocks, and the villagers opposed him, as peacocks were held sacred by them. We give the story in Mr. Lely's own words, which occur in the evidence he gave before the Magistrate in the proceedings he instituted:

"He went along making enquiries after the peacocks of the people whom he met on the way, and was told by them that the would find some near Kokta a village about two miles from his camp. Witness went in that direction and on arriving near the village, he started two peacocks from trees in the *maidan* close to the village and shot both of them. He gave one to the cook and other to a little Waghri boy, who had joined him on the road. He started then on his way back, when he heard a shouting behind him. He turned and saw crowds of people running towards him. Two or three yards ahead of them was Faljee. The latter was stripped to the waist, witness's impression was that Falji had in his hand a couple of brickbats. Witness took a step forward to meet him; and was at once surrounded by not less than seven or eight men most of whom had sticks in their hands. They shouted; they were violent in their tone and manner, and they used threatening gestures which led witness to believe that they were about to attack him. Accused No 4 (Gulab Rehman a blacksmith) had nothing in his hands but he was especially violent in his language and behaviour. Witness thought to himself that if he was hasty he should precipitate an attack and have to use his gun. From the behaviour of the people he expected every moment to have been hit from behind. He took his gun in one hand with the muzzle in the air and stood, quite still and said. "There is no need to make a noise." He said this in Guzerati, but the men still made violent gestures and tried to drown his speech with clamour. Witness then said. "Call the *mukhi*;" when Nos. 3 and 4 said, "What is the *mukhi* to do with it? As witness saw that they would not listen he changed his tone and said in Guzerati. "I am the Talukdari Saheb. Those who know me I am not the one to do injustice. If you interfere with me, the *Sircar* will visit it on you and all the village." As witness said this he noticed something in No. I, which made him believe that No. I was going to rush at him. As a warning witness raised his gun to his shoulder; and No. I had his stick raised as if about to strike. When the latter saw witness's action he gave his stick a harder grip and raised it higher as if to challenge witness.

The villagers did not, however, strike Mr. Lely, but made a row. After the tumult had subsided Mr. Lely went back and prosecuted the villagers. The police charged the accused with rioting; but the Magistrate convicted them of assault,and sentenced them to from three to six weeks' rigorous imprisonment each. It is in his judgment the Magistrate gives Mr. Lely a certificate for "conciliatory disposition," upon which the High Court has commented strongly, but of this by-and-bye. An appeal was preferred to the Sessions Judge, who remarks: "There was no doubt, however, that the assault was provoked by the extremely injudicious conduct of Mr. Lely, who ought to have known better than to shoot peacocks in Northern Guzerat, especially close to the village where he might have just as well have shot barn door fowls for the sport, or vultures, for whatever they might have been intended, it would have hurt no one." He commuted the sentence of imprisonment on two prisoners to one of fine, but rejected the appeal of the prisoner, who was the *mukhi* of the village. The High Court was moved as a court of revision, and Mr. Justice West in his judgment says: "This case comes before the High Court not as an appeal in which the merits could be enquired into, but as an application for revision. There have not only been a conviction and a sentence by the magistrate, but a confirmation of them by the Sessions Judge, and the sentence awarded has been completly undergone. The last circumstance would not of course prevent our going into the case, for the clearing up of a man's character may be as important as the reversal of his sentence of imprisonment. The case originated in Mr. Lely having shot two peacocks near the village of Kokta, in the Viramgamtaluka of the Ahmedabad Collectorate. The applicant, with two other villagers, has been convicted by Mr. Fernandes, Magistrate first class, of having assaulted Mr. Lely and sentenced to imprisonment for six weeks. The conviction and sentence have been confirmed by the Sessions Judge on appeal. The first point raised by the applicant's counsel is that the peacocks shot by Mr. Lely were the property of the village people; that in shooting them Mr. Lely committed mischief; if not theft; and that in remonstrating, however, roughly, with Mr. Lely, the villagers were acting in defence of their property. We are unable to allow this contention. Birds which are not domesticated and which do not go to the house are not the private property of any one; nor do we think that the villagers are a corporation capable of having property in them. This does not, we wish it to be understood, lessen the extreme injudiciousness, in our view, of the act of shooting birds in the close vicinity of a village and wounding the prejudices of a susceptible community. We have not to deal with that question.". The last is the most important point. Here was a "conciliatory civilian," who did not hesitate to kill birds, which were held sacred by the people. His Lordship then goes on: "The Magistrate has perhaps taken an extreme view of the evidence. Sitting in appeal we might possibly take a different view. The villagers appear to have followed Mr. Lely in a threatening manner, which might the more readily cause him alarm, or it was due to his own foolish or indignant behaviour. The applicant seems at first to have had a couple of brick bats in his hands, and to have dropped them and taken up a stick. Some of the others also had sticks. This object was apparently a common one, namely to alarm Mr. Lely, of whose rank and quality they were then ignorant. The description given by Mr. Lely, of their proceedings satisfies on the whole the description of the offence of which the Magistrate has found the applicant guilty, though it may be that if we were trying this case ourselves, we should have come to a different conclusion. We may observe that, if it was injudicious in Mr. Lely to have shot peacocks where he did, and to have acted as he did, it was still more injudicious in the Magistrate to have introduced into his finding the remarks on Mr. Lely's conciliatory character and the like. They are not based upon any evidence in the case; and it was improper to have made them a part of his judgment. However, this is a defect which does not touch the merits of the case. We think lastly that the sentence passed was considerably in excess of what the justice of the case required. A simple fine would have been quite sufficient to meet the ends of justice, or at most a week's imprisonment. We know with what asperity villagers resent injuries to their cherished animals; and in this circumstance there was a palliation, if not an excuse, for their conduct, which barely amounted to a punishable offence. We do not think that the conduct of the accused was of such a serious character as quite to justify the Magistrate in passing upon him such a severe sentence as that of imprisonment for six weeks; or that it need be held to disqualify him for the post of police patel which he holds." We hope these remarks of the High Court will be taken into due consideration by the local Government. In the first place a "conciliatory civilian" conciliates the people by shooting birds which are held sacred by them. In the second place he prosecutes the injured villagers for simply frightening him evidently with a view to make him desist in his pastime. In the third place the Magistrate sentenced the accused villagers to imprisonment, which the High Court

holds was "considerably in excess of what the justice of the case required." We hope these points will be duly considered by the local Government.

THE PUNJAB CANALS IN 1879-80.

IN a recent issue we examined the financial position of the Bengal Canals in 1879-80 and we now proceed to notice the results of the irrigation works of the Punjab for the same year. The local capital invested in the Punjab Canals to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 4,62,74,040 of which Rs. 76,94,127 had been supplied by the Native States concerned in the Sirhind Canal. Of the total capital outlay Rs. 2,39,62,613 represents the capital of the works in operation. These are (1) Bari Doab Canal; (2) Western Jamna Canal; (3) Upper Sutlej Canal; (4) Lower Sutlej Canal; (5) Indus Canal; (6) Shibpur Canal; (7) Madhopur Workshops. The total capital of the works under construction at the end of the year was Rs. 2,15,87,902. The Lieutenant-Governor's Resolution on the Revenue Report of the Chief Engineer, for the year 1879-80, thus sums up the results of the year: "The receipts of the year from the canals in operation amounted to Rs. 33,13,090, and the working expenses to Rs. 16,39,792, so that there was a profit of Rs. 16,73,298, or 7 per cent. on the capital. The profit in the previous year was 6·31 per cent. The above refers to collections; but the assessments for the year amounted to Rs. 34,33,917, and the working expenses to Rs. 16,39,792, so that the net revenue was Rs. 17,94,125, or 7·5 per cent. on the capital, against 7·88 in the previous year. The interest chargeable against the canals amounted to Rs. 10,55,531, which is Rs. 7,37,594 less than the profit by the assessments, and Rs. 6,15,767 less than that by the collections, so that the net profit of the canals in operation, after paying all charges including interest, was 3·08 by assessments and 2·57 per cent. by collections. The canals which did not pay the full amount of interest were the Upper Sutlej and Indus canals and the Madhopur Workshops, which have been closed. The charge for interest on the whole capital, including that of the suspended works, was Rs. 16,66,403, which is Rs. 1,27,722 less than the profit by the assessments, but Rs. 6,095 in excess of that by the collections of the year. The total interest account up to date shews a balance of revenue from the canals in operation of Rs. 2,15,90,462 excluding, and Rs. 2,14,80,969 including the indirect charges. If the unfinished and suspended works are included, the balance of revenue is reduced to Rs. 1,82,99,240." These results the Lieutenant-Governor pronounces to have been fairly successful, and the Government of India concurs in this conclusion.

We are told that the only works which did not pay the full amount of interest on the capital invested in them, were the Upper Sutlej and Indus canals and the Madhopur Workshops. It may be worth while to examine in detail the financial position of these works. The total capital outlay on the Upper Sutlej canals to the end of 1879-80 amounted to Rs. 5,68,594, and their total net revenue, direct and indirect, for the year under report was Rs. 4,108, which fell short of the charges for interest by Rs. 19,436. The debt due by the Upper Sutlej canals on account of accumulated interest charges up to the end of 1879-80 was Rs. 5,01,545. The area irrigated by these canals was 99,474 acres, or 33,484 acres less than in the previous year. It should, however, be remembered that although the actual returns from these canals are small, they are of great benefit to the districts through which they pass, as without them cultivation would be almost impossible. The revenue from the Upper Sutlej Inundation canals is almost wholly indirect. The total capital outlay on the Indus canals up to the end of 1879-80 was Rs. 6,91,917. The loss on these canals during the year under report amounted to 18·27 per cent. on the capital, against 19·54 on the previous year; and the total loss up to date has been Rs. 2,42,636. The Indus canals did not even pay their working expenses in 1879-80, to say nothing of the interest on the capital invested in them. Their total gross revenue, direct and indirect—but mostly latter—was Rs. 1,77,442; whereas the working expenses came up to Rs. 3,03,869. The total earnings thus fell short of the working expenses by Rs. 1,26,427. The capital invested in the Madhopur Workshops to the end of 1879-80 was Rs. 5,28,315. The loss on these Workshops up to date has been Rs. 7,66,655; so the Madhopur Workshops have caused a heavy loss to the tax-payer.

The Government would have us believe that the Bari Doab canal, the Western Jumna canal, the Lower Sutlej canal and the Shahpur canal have proved successful from a financial point of view. The Bari Doab canal is the largest irrigation work which has been constructed by the British Government in the Punjab; and though it paid the full amount of interest during the year under report, it does not show a clean balance-sheet. The net revenue of the year gives a profit of 4·6 per cent. on the capital invested against 3·16 and 1·12 in the two previous years. This is undoubtedly satisfactory; but the hard fact remains that the balance of interest against the canal up to the end of the year under report was Rs. 60,11,801. It will take a very long time to pay off this debt. From this amount, says the Chief Engineer, are to be deducted the sum of Rs. 2,03,745 on account of land revenue due to the canals paid to jagirdars and the sum of Rs. 1,33,237 due on account of land irrigated from the canals, which were formerly irrigated from wells. If these two sums were deducted, the balance of interest due from the canal would be reduced to Rs. 57,12,959. The area irrigated by the Bari Doab Canal was 393,317 acres, being an increase of 60,563 acres over that of the previous year. Irrigation from the canal had fallen off steadily from 1863-69 up to 1877-78. The Chief Engineer thus accounts for the decrease:—"During this period the retrogression of the levels of the bed was in active progress, resulting in extensive deposits of silt in the lower portions of the canal, so that until the thorough clearance in 1877, a full supply could not be carried. The heavy cost of repairs at the head prevented money for this work being available earlier. During the last two years great attention has been paid to forcing water into the canal and increasing the supply in the khariff, which can be more easily utilized now that the Kasur and Sobraon branches are open. In the rabi I fear but little improvement can be looked for, as the cold-weather supply is always limited. *Much of the success of this year's operation was due to the abnormal supply in the river during the spring months.*" The italics are ours. It will be seen that the unusual increase of irrigation from the Bari Doab Canal during the year under report was due to exceptional causes, the continuance of which cannot be calculated upon. Whether this canal has paid the interest charge for 1880-81 remains to be seen. The only works which have proved really remunerative are the Western Jumna Canal and the Lower Sutlej Canal. The Western Jumna Canal, the reader knows, is a restored native work, and as such, its case is peculiarly favourable. This canal has yielded up to date the handsome profit of Rs. 1,56,01,048 after paying the charges for interest. In judging of the financial results of the Punjab irrigation works, we should not take the Western Jumna Canal into account. The Lower Sutlej Canals also shows a profit of Rs. 37,89,534 up to the end of 1879-80. The profit on these works, which are inundation canals, for the year under report was 170·27 per cent. against 140·19 in the previous year. This favourable result, however, was entirely due to the revision of the land revenue assessment, whereby the amount credited to the canals was raised by Rs. 39,437. This, we are told, will be still further increased when the new settlement comes into full operation. The only permanent canal in the Punjab which has proved really remunerative is the Western Jumna Canal, the capital invested in which by the British Government represents nothing like its real cost.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE INVITE attention to the lecture to be delivered by Dr. Sircar at the Science Association to-morrow—subject, the same that formed the text of his lecture before Lord Lytton last year with fresh investigations.

WE UNDERSTAND that His Honor the Lieut. Governor will leave Darjeeling on the 8th instant for his annual River Tour. He will visit Rungpore, Dhubri, Dacca, Backergunge, Khulna, and Port Canning, reaching Calcutta about 24th August. From Calcutta Sir Ashley Eden will proceed to Midnapore, returning thence to Calcutta. He will be accompanied on tour by his personal staff and by the Secretaries Messrs. Cockerell and Levinge. The following is a list of dates of arrival and departure:

Darjeeling.....	Date of depr		8th August
Rungpore	" arrival		9th "
	" depr		Do. "
Dhubri	" arrival		Do. "
	" depr		11th "
Dacca	" arrival	12th or 13th	"
	" depr	15th or 16th	"
Backergunge ...	" arrival	Ditto	"
	" depr	17th or 18th	"
Khoolna.....	" arrival	18th or 19th	"
	" depr	20th or 21st	"
Canning.....	" arrival	22nd or 23rd	"
	" depr	Ditto	"
Calcutta	" arrival	23rd or 24th	"

WE HEAR that the Lieutenant-Governor has recommended, with reference to the report of Sir Donald Stewart's Committee on the administration of the Contagious Diseases Act, that the enforcement of the Act should be restricted to those parts of Calcutta which are frequented by soldiers and sailors, that is to say, that a line should be drawn from Colootollah, south of which will be subjected to the operation of the law and north exempted from it. In fact it is proposed to discontinue the enforcement of the law as far as the civil population is concerned. We hope that in the interests of mortality the Government of India will sanction this proposal.

A LEADING idea of Sir Ashley Eden in connection with land-law reform is the establishment of special Rent Courts, and he has made a beginning in this direction. He has arranged with the High Court for the establishment of Rent Courts in the following districts:

Dacca.	Tipperah.
Jessore.	Midnapore.
Rungpore.	Nuddea.
Mymensing.	24-Pergunahs.
Furreedpore.	Sarun.
Ghittagong.	Noakholly.
Tirhoot.	

These Courts will be presided over by selected Munsifs, who will also exercise Small Cause Court Jurisdiction. This arrangement is good so far as it goes, but we fear the Rent-Courts will not materially facilitate the trial of rent-suits until the procedure is simplified.

JEYPORE is now to all intents and purposes under British rule, for the British Political Agent has a voice potential in all matters. But the administration of the Raj does not seem to give satisfaction to the people. We receive bitter complaints of arbitrary proceedings on the part of the Political Agent. He has lately dismissed a Native Judge under circumstances, which, if the right version has been given to us, are simply incomprehensible. Then he has, it is said, with the sanction of the Governor-General's Agent, Rajputana States, suspended the Prime Minister Thakur Futteh Sing, who will be tried by a Commission. As the Thakore's case is *sub judice* we will not comment upon it. Next, we are told that Col. Bannermann proposes to take an inventory of the private exchequer of the Maharaja. As Native Princes do not for obvious reasons wish to make known their private resources to British officials, the people of Jeypore do not like this move of Col. Bannermann. They seem to think that the minor Maharaja will be sufficiently protected, if his private treasuries are properly guarded. The present Maharaja is 20 years of age, and as he was brought up in the school of adversity he thoroughly understands his own interests. Surely His Highness ought to be consulted in matters of this kind as well as in other matters of State.

THE TERMS of the minute of Lord Ripon disallowing the Bombay Game Preservation Bill are

more significant than the act of vetoing it. His Lordship says :

When a law of this kind is proposed, it must always be a question whether the advantages to be looked for may not be more than counterbalanced by other considerations. In England the objections to establishing a close time for animals, such as hares and rabits, which are injurious to crops, has long been recognised ; and an Act passed in the last session of the Imperial Parliament has taken a further step towards setting the occupier of land free to deal as he pleases with ground game. In India the arguments against authoritative protection of such animals are even stronger, because the body of the people are dependent upon agriculture, and because the ordinary size of agricultural holdings being very small, the amount of injury which a cultivator may suffer from the ravages of deer and the like would be far more serious than England where farmers hold considerable areas and are rarely exposed to the depredations of any of the larger game animals. If an Act such as that now under consideration is efficiently worked, it must tend to the increase of those animals, and in this case landholders must either be put to expense in protecting their crops, or must submit to loss and injury. His Excellency is therefore of opinion that he would not be justified in assenting to a law, the tendency of which must be to expose the ryot to losses and liabilities from which but for that law, he would be free.

Noble spirit this ! It evinces a sympathy with the people of this country, an appreciation of their real condition and requirements, and an estimate of the true functions of the legislature, which cannot be too highly admired. It would do honor to any statesman. Need we point out that the arguments of Lord Ripon apply *protanto* to the Arms Act. His Excellency adds :

The objections to legislating for the protection of fish and birds not injurious to agriculture are not so strong but even in their case the Governor-General doubt the advantage of introducing restrictions which may be irksome to, and misunderstood by, the people ; and it was upon these grounds that the Government of India declined last year to legislate, at the request of the Panjab Government, for a similar purpose. If the object to be gained were one of paramount public importance, it might be necessary and right to disregard all other considerations ; but the public interests involved in the preservation of birds and fish are not, in the opinion of His Excellency, sufficiently strong to warrant interference with the habits of the rural populations in the manner contemplated by the Act.

If all legislation in India were based on this spirit, there would be little room for complaint.

THE NEW Government loan for three crores of rupees has been very successful. The rates at which tenders were made were as follows :

Aggregate amount of Tenders	10,84 30,300
Minimum rate of accepted Tenders	104-12as.
Tenders at that rate received per cent.....	about 53
Total amount of accepted Tenders.....	3,00,00,000
Total amount to be received by Government	3,15,54,471
Average rate at which Loan was issued just under..	105-3as.

The Government has made a good stroke of business ; it has netted a profit of Rs. 15,10,000 by the operation. The loan has not been allotted entirely to European capitalists. About two-thirds of the loan we are told have been allotted to Indian tenderers. The high rates at which the tenders have gone have affected the Government Securities. The fours have come down from 6 to 4 per cent.

WE ARE glad to learn that Mr. F. R. Hogg, Director General of the Post Office of India, has been pleased to appoint Babu Bissenchunder Dutt, a first-grade Superintendent of Post Offices attached to the Bengal Circle, to officiate as Deputy Post Master General of Behar. We thank Mr. Hogg for this act of well merited justice to a meritorious officer, and we make no doubt that if he will but take courage to rely upon his own judgment, good sense, and generous impulses, there will be no ground for complaint in any branch of the Postal Department.

THE BANK OF BENGAL will hold its half-yearly meeting on Monday the 15th instant. We hope some enquiry will be made as to the new system of making payments and keeping accounts, which we hear the Directors are about to introduce. Apart from the question whether the new system will be more expensive than the present, and the incidental exclusion of natives from the higher offices in the Bank, it is worthy of consideration whether it will contribute to efficiency. We also hope that the question of the Durga Puja vacation will be considered.

THE FOLLOWING is the reply of the Government of Bombay to the memorial of the Hindu inhabitants of Bombay *in re* the Maharaj of Jamnuggur :

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the recept of the memorial dated 17th instant, from certain Hindoo inhabitants of Bombay, praying that the unexpired portion of the sentence of two years' simple imprisonment passed by the chief criminal court in Kathiwar upon Vrijeshji Vrijanathji Maharaj of Jamnagar, may be remitted.

2. In reply I am to request that you will be good enough to cause the memorialists to be informed that Government regret their inability to comply with the request contained in their memorial ; but when the proceedings of the said court come before Government on appeal, they will receive the early and careful consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council.

3. I am to add that Government have already ordered that one of Vrijeshji Vrijanathji Maharaj's own sect may be admitted to the jail for the purpose of preparing his food.

We hope the appeal will be made in due course.

THE FATE of Amir Abdul Rahaman seems to be trembling in the balance. Ayub Khan, as the telegrams in another column shew, has gained a decided victory over him at Kandahar. If the tribes join him, Ayub will not surely be content with the conquest of Kandahar but will go over to Kabul. The game is getting serious. We do not, however, believe that our Government will depart from its policy of non-intervention. All that is necessary for us to do is to secure our own frontier.

THE TIMES contains an appreciative notice of the late Professor Theodore Benfey, who had consecrated a long life of literary labour to the advancement of oriental studies. He was born of Jewish parents, in 1809, and after passing his pupilage at the Gymnasium at Gottingen, and studied for some time at the Universities of Gottingen and Munich, became a Professor at Gottingen in 1834. His first great work was *Griechisches Wurzal-lexicon* (published in 1839-42), which laid the foundation of the critical and comparative philology of the Greek language. Much has been done since, but the honor of the pioneer rests with him. In this work among other things he demonstrated the identity of the Greek *eikosi*, the Latin *viginti* and the Sanskrit *vinsati*. It is curious that the Greek *eikosi* turns up in the modern Bengali as *ekusa*, but in the sense of 21 instead of 20. In 1848 he published the text and a German translation of the Sama Veda, and subsequently a portion of the Rig Veda. Among his other publications may be noticed his critical edition of the Panchatantra, in which he assigned a Buddhist origin to those fables, a scholarly Sanskrit grammar, a Sanskrit-English Dictionary, and a "History of the Science of Language and Oriental Philology in Germany." He belonged to the school of Bopp and Pott, and, although his conclusions and theories have been to some extent set aside or questioned by later scholars, he was unquestionably, as described by Professor Max Muller to whose pen is due the notice in the *Times* "the greatest Sanskrit scholar of our times" in Europe.

THE WIDOW of Kumar Grish Chunder Sing, eldest son of the late Raja Protap Chunder Sing of Paikpara, has in accordance with the will of her deceased husband, adopted the second son of Kumar Purno Chunder Sing, the present head of the Paikparah Raj Family, as her son. The ceremony took place yesterday, and all Calcutta was invited to witness it. On Friday last Kumar Indir Chunder Sing, who has taken a prominent part in giving effect to the will of his deceased cousin, entertained the friends of the family with nautches. The house was decorated in a superb style, and the gate and the road were illuminated with electric light. Substantial presents to learned Pundits of different parts of Bengal, alms to the poor, and feasting constitute the main features of the programme of this great adoption ceremony. It is said that the whole cost is estimated at about Rs. 36,000. To Kumar Indir Chunder Sing belongs the credit of designing and carrying out the whole programme.

WE THANK Raja Sourindra Mohun Tagore Bahadur, Mus. Doc. C. I. E. for a copy of "Haratattva-Didhitih or a commentary on the religious Vyavasthas of the Hindus quoted from various Tantras, Puranas and other ancient authorities by the illustrious Harakumara Tagore." The noble editor says that the "Haratattva-Didhitih" is a Sanskrit work of a religious character having for its object the assimilation of the views held on particular religious questions by different authorities. The author has discussed the points brought forward in all their bearings, and has given his own opinions on those points. In the preface Raja Sourindra Mohun Tagore gives a brief sketch of his illustrious father's life, which though not marked by such noticeable events as distinguished the career of his youngest brother the Hon'ble Prossunnokumar Tagore, had an interesting moral of its own. Though nursed on the lap of luxury, Harakumar Tagore used to burn the midnight oil and learn Sanskrit with the assiduity and avidity of a Pandit, and for the high proficiency which he attained in our ancient classic he acquired the name of Pandit. He wrote three Sanskrit works viz. Dakshinarcha-parijata, Purascharana-Bodhini and Haratattva-didhiti. As a lover of Sanskrit literature he used to take delight in the company of learned Pandits, whom he used to encourage with substantial presents. He used to maintain at his own expense a good number of students in the Nuddea *toles*. He made a splendid collection of Sanskrit MSS. His mantle has fallen on worthy sons, the Hon'ble the Maharaja Joteendra Mohun Tagore Bahadur C. S. I., and Raja Sourindra Mohun Tagore Bahadur, Mus. Doc. C. I. E.

WE HAVE received a copy of a petition addressed to the Collector of Burdwan by certain inhabitants of Barugram and other villages on the right bank of the Damudar, Pergunna Haveli, in the district of Burdwan, bitterly complaining of the devastations arising from the overflow in the river. They adduce several instances of which the villagers have suffered seriously from floods. They state that "last year, about 190 *bigas* of good arable land were rendered sandy and almost unfit for cultivation ; 253 *bigas* of crops of rice were destroyed ; 20 tanks had been overflooded, causing a great loss to the owners, owing to the escape of the fish that had been reared therein ; and 4 huts were levelled to the ground ; not less than 20 cattle were swept away, and 2 boys, of about 12 years of age, were carried a great distance by the force of the currents, but for the timely help of the few villagers would have beeen completely drowned that the loss thus caused would amount to about ten thousand rupees." They accordingly pray for the construction of two embankments of about 400ft. and 300ft. in length, respectively, with a sluice in the one at the northern extremity of Barugram under Sec. 4, Clause 3 of Act VI. of 1873 (B. C.) The poor villagers should certainly be relieved, but the question is whether the villages in question fall within the tract which is kept open for the protection of the Railway. We should like to have some information on this point. There is a long report by Col. Beadle on the subject.

MR. O'DONNELL M. P. has again laid the people of Bengal under an obligation. He put the following question to the Secretary of State for India :

July 4. Mr. O'Donnell asked the Secretary of State for India whether it was already known early in 1880 that the excise revenue of British Burmah had largely increased, and that the most of this increase was due to an increase in the consumption of opium ; whether the consumption of alcoholic drinks was spreading both in Burmah and Bengal, and the revenue from the Excise Department on the sale of intoxicating liquor increased annually ; whether the statement was accurate that in the single year 1879-80 the number of shops licensed by the Government to sell intoxicating spririts to the native population increased from 3911 to 4981 ; whether it was the case that instructions were issued to the administrative officials throughout the various collectorates and sub-collectorates to ascertain in what districts Government drink-shops would be opened with greatest profit to the revenue ; and whether complaints had been repeatedly addressed to the authorities that these proceedings of the revenue authorities were steadily sapping and ruining the sober habits of the Indian community, and constantly creating circles of habitual drinkers in every district.

The Marquis of Hartington replied as follows :

In May, 1880, the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah drew attention to the growth of excise revenue in that province, which it appeard was to a great extent due to an increase in the consumption of opium. The subject having been brought to the notice of Government, steps have been taken as stated in the House last Monday in reply to the hon.

member for Carlisle, to check the consumption of opium which will, it is anticipated, involve a sacrifice of revenue of about £50,000 a year, The increased consumption of spirits in Bengal and Britsh Burmah is attributed in a great measure. to a general advancement in prosperity ; it is also to some extent due to the adoption of the, outstill system, whereby a weaker and less injurious spirit is provided in place of the stronger liquor produced at the Sudder distilleries. It is impossible to estimate to what extent there has been an increased consumption of spirits, as the increase in the number of outstills in Bengal is known to have checked illicit distillation, and the people now drink what has paid excise instead of illicit spirit : the out-still liquor has also in some measure displaced deleterious drugs. The commissioners of divisions have generally concurred in opinion that there has been no increase in drunkenness in consequence of the outstill system. which system, while providing for the wants of the people in a legitimate manner has been the means of bringing in an increase of revenue to the State. The number of shops in Bengal under the Sudder distillery system has decreased from 1938 to 902 while those under the outstill system have risen from 3911 to 4981. There would therefore appear to have been a net increase in the number of shops of thirty-four in 1879-80, as compared with 1878-79. It is however, not possible to make any accurate comparison of the number of shops in each of these two years, as the outstill system was not introduced or extended uniformly, and the returns from some districts accordingly show shops which were only open for a part of either year. With regard to the concluding part of this question, there is no evidence of repeated complaints having been addressed to the authorities against the proceedings of the revenue authorities. The Rev. Thomas Evans of Monghyr, in a letter of June 28, 1880, drew the attention of the Governor General to what he considered to be the ill effects of the outstill system in encouraging drunkenness, but on investigation his statements were considered by the Collector of Monghyr to have been "entirely unfounded." Complaints have also been made that the establishment of spirit shops in the vicinity of tea-gardens in Assam and Darjeeling has led to increased drunkenness among the coolies employed. These have engaged the attention of Government, and the Government of India, in a recent letter on the subject, stated that while on the one hand they were far from wishing to encourage drinking for the sake of revenue on the other hand they could not tolerate the illicit manufacture of spirits and they were therefore constrained to provide for its legal sale wherever a demand was shown to have sprung up for it. Nothing is known of instructions having been issued to the administrative officials throughout the various collectorates and sub-collectorates to ascertain in what districts Government drink-shops can be opened with the greatest profit to the revenue, and it seems highly improbable that any such instructions should have been issued.

We must say that we cannot quite agree with the Secretary of State on the subject. We continue to receive reports from all parts of Bengal that drunkenness has increased everywhere owing to the introduction of the outstill system, which has greatly cheapened country spirits. Not only have agriculturists but even school-boys it is said taken to drinking. This is a result much to be deplored and deprecated. We propose to go fully into the subject in a future issue.

THE SENATE of the Calcutta University met on Saturday last for the fourth time to revise the curriculum of the First Arts Course. Motions for the adoption of the courses recommended by the Faculty of Arts for English, Classics, and Logic having been carried a resolution was proposed to limit the history course to outlines of the history of Greece and Rome instead of a general sketch of European History and a special period either of ancient History or of Indian History, including Indian Antiquities, which after some discussion was adopted. Mr. Croft then moved that Geometry be taught according to modern method and not in the antiquated line of Euclid. He strongly advocated the change and held out Wilson's and Reynolds' books as models. This led to a protracted discussion. Mr. Biden moved these amendments ; 1st that partial fractions, and the elements of the method of indeterminate co-efficients be omitted ; 2nd that the extent of Plane Geometry be reduced, 3rd that DeMoivre's theorem and expansion of the sine and cosine of an angle in terms of its circular measure be omitted. Mr. Elliot was of opinion that Euclid was full of defects, and that to teach Euclid as was now done, was not to teach Geometry. He did not care for this book or that book,—what he wanted was liberty. Father Lafont styled Euclid antiquated Geometry and ascribed the success of continental mathematical education to the teaching of the modern system of Geometry. Mr. Biden ridiculed, to the great amusement of the meeting, the modern method of Geometry, characterised Wilson's book as full of bad grammar and vicious logic, quoted Tod Hunter's and De Morgan's condemnation of Modern Geometry and denounced the text-books proposed as teaching the subject in a very unsatisfactory way. Rev. Mr. Macdonald suggested that the books named be not included and that only geometry of the straight line, triangle and circle be treated according to modern methods. Rev. Mr. Finter was for delay until the question be settled by some leading Hindu Mathematician as to what system was best for the Hindu mind, and for retaining known text-books instead of accepting strange and new books. Rev. Mr. Robertson was convinced by hearing the several speakers that he should not support Mr. Biden's amendments, though he at first intended to support them. On being put to the vote Mr. Biden's first and third amendments were carried, and the 2nd lost. A good deal of discussion then followed about the course for physics. Mr. Croft was for the course proposed by the Faculty of Arts, with two omissions, and Rev. Mr. Hastie and other missionary gentlemen for a considerable reduction as they thought, and very justly, that the course was too heavy. The sense of the meeting was, however, in favor of Mr. Croft's proposition. At the next meeting the B. A. Course will be taken up for settlement. Seeing how extensively Mr. Croft's course as fathered by the Faculty of Arts has been mutilated by the Senate, it may be inferred that the Dons will have lively time of it the next three meetings at least.

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

LONDON, JULY 8TH.

We have had a week of tragedies—the attempted assassination of President Garfield, (one of the noblest of living men) the awful murder on the Brighton railway, and the condemnation of the murderers of the late Sultan at Constantinople. I turn from these, however, to more kindly topics.

The appointment of Mr. Grant Duff to Madras is I believe really popular in England. He is an able man, and when he has authority undisputed he will not be crotchetty.

Another topic I wish to refer to is the new book of Eastern Proverbs and Emblems by the Revd. J. Long, published by Trubner & Co. I have a great regard for Mr. Long, and I think you, Sir, have a like feeling in agreement or disagreement as to mere opinion. I would very much like his book to have a good sale in Native India. Some of it (the latter part) has a religious application, but Native India, which reads everything, will not care for that, and far the greater part of the book is a simple collection of proverbs—really a life-work, and of the deepest interest to India. Mr. Long says in his preface :—

" Proverbs are not the production of the bookworm or the midnight oil. Proverbs *were before books*—they come from the great books of Nature and common sense—from powers of observation, not blunted by book-cram ; hence among the Proverbs in this book, though principally Eastern,* there are very few that are not intelligible to the European mind ; like the Proverbs of Solomon, the Psalms, Bunyan's " Pilgrim's Progress," and the Arabian Nights, they speak in a language " understanded by the common people."

While illustrations by Emblem and Proverb are indispensable as media for conveying instruction in the East, they are highly valued in Europe also. The following observations of Archbishop Trench will find a response with all those who have aimed at winning the attention of the working classes, the peasantry, and the " Arabs of Society :"—

" Any one who by after investigation has sought to discover how much our rustic hearers carry away, even from sermons to which they have attentively listened, will find that it is hardly ever the course or tenor of the arguments, supposing the discourse to have contained such ; but if anything has been uttered, as it used so often to be by the best Puritan preachers, tersely, pointedly, epigrammatically, this will have stayed by them, while all the rest has passed away. Great preachers to the people, such as have found their way to the universal heart of their fellows, have ever been great employers *of proverbs.*"

The Author will feel greatly obliged for any corrections or additions to this work forwarded for him to the Publishers.

I purpose to ask you next week to introduce to your readers some few of the Proverbs themselves, and I think even my necessarily brief notice of them will be interesting. But please let me ask your readers to buy the book, for its own sake, and for the sake of an aged man—a true friend of India.

I suppose no one living ever takes up a number of the *Spectator* without finding something to differ from in opinion. From causes which I need not enumerate I had till last week been for full three months without seeing more than for news-room reading a copy of the *Spectator*. Last week I resumed my old habit of reading thoroughly and at home, and growling at, or approving, as the case might be, my old friend of twenty years. What a treat it was ! An article on " Mr. Childers" I read and re-read. I thought I had known Mr. Childers, but the new light in the article I am referring to was marvellous. Heretofore I had seen this notable administrator as in a glass, darkly. I now saw him face to face. Articles on " the Irish Land Bill ;" " Mr. Gladstone in the East ;" " the Impending Trouble in South Africa ;" " M. Dufaure ;" " the Railway murder," &c. follow. Please, observe, I am not an out-and-out admirer of the *Spectator*. It seems to me at times ridiculously schoolish and when it speaks of workmen and workmen's associations and cottage life, it is often simply absurd, and makes one laugh. I do know cottage life. I am of cottage blood, and am proud of it. My fathers I believe " felled" trees, and made carts and ploughed fields, and never sought to pass under the wing of any lord or squire. I have been neck-high in workmen's politics and have sometimes left them with disgust and sometimes with pride. For the prating workman I have an utter scorn, but I have a greater scorn still for the prating flunkey who scorns the man of the hard hand and the honest toil. The *Spectator* with a kindred feeling (and I fancy the same cottage blood if it would say so) makes absurd errors as I have said. But read its one " issue"(July 2nd) to see how little intelligent men speaking the English language can do without the great Weekly. The digest of facts is admirable, the comment is as careful as that of the monthlies or quarterlies. All opinions are admitted without reference to their agreement with those of the Editors. Old journalists in England say.—" Whatever else you miss read *The Times ;* you will often differ from it, but you cannot dispense with it." I say the same of the *Spectator*. Read it for instruction, for fair views and for zeal against wrong. When it errs, let the error act as a beacon. Where it is right it is worthy to be upheld as one of the powerful agencies of right in England in these times. I know to whom I am writing. I know occasions when you have opposed the *Spectator ;* I know many in which I have deemed it in the wrong. I write as an outsider, as one without the least interest in the paper, as a simple lover of fair dealing and honesty and intellect in journalism.

The other day one of the London papers had this paragraph :—

"Mr. Edmond Beales, County-Court Judge of Circuit Thirty-five, died at his residence, Osborne House, Bolton-gardens, on Sunday. The deceased gentleman was born on July 3, 1803. He was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1830, and was Revising Barrister for Middlesex from 1862 to 1866. He unsuccessfully contested the Tower Hamlets in 1868 ; was President of the Reform League from 1865 to 1869 ; and was appointed a County-Court Judge in 1870. His name, however, will be better recollected by the public in connection with the Hyde Park Riots some few years since."

Imagine that—his name will be better *recollected* in connection with the Hyde Park Riots *some years since !* Only a few years and there have to be recollections of Edmund Beales as of a man of straw. It seems but as yesterday that I heard him at Manchester contend for the palm of Oratory with John Bright but with poor success. Manchester merely laughing. Still he was a notable man and one of the chief means of forcing a Reform Bill through Parliament. Then he was made a County-Court Judge, and, save in Social Meetings and his own Court, was never heard of again, till he passed out of existence. Then, we have this poor little paragraph, and no more. You remember your great men better than we. London swallows up everything and everybody.

---

* Many Russian Proverbs are given, which were collected by the Author in Moscow ; but the Russians are a semi-Oriental people, and their proverbs have an Eastern ring about them.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN GENELAL DEBILITY.—In cases of Debility and Defective Nutrition, the use of this celebrated Oil has been attended with remarkably beneficial results. Rowland Dalton, Esq., District Medical Officer, Bury St. Edmunds, writes :—" In giving my opinion of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, I have no hesitation in saying that I have not the slightest confidence in any other kind. The effect of Dr. de Jongh's Oil are sure and most remarkable, especially in that broken-down state of health and strength which usually precedes and favours tubercular deposit ; and I never recommend any other sort. The Oil I have had from you was for my own use, and it has certainly been the only means of saving my life on two occasions ; and even now, when I feel 'out of condition,' I take it, and like it, unmixed with anything, as being the most agreeable way. I could wish that Dr. de Jongh's Oil would come into general use, and entirely supersede the Pale and other worthless preparations." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 77, Strand London.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 30th July, 1881.

The previous improved condition of our commercial markets has fully been maintained during the week with fair amount of transactions both in Imports and Exports.

Imports.—Cotton goods. A good feeling continues to prevail in this market by the presence of upcountry demands which being supported by encouraging telegrams from Manchester rendered it very firm and a series of transactions have passed in Grey goods at slightly advanced rates, whilst white descriptions remain much the same. Prints and Turkey Red kinds found buyers to a fair extent at previous rates.

Yarns.—Have hardly met with any change, the same quiet tone prevailed.

Exports.—Tea.—At the Auction sales, held on the 28th July, 7,114 chests were offered, all found buyers except 86 chests, the demand was good and last prices were fully maintained ; in some instances there was a slight variation both in favor and against.

Jute.—There was a good demand, but owing to inadequate supplies operations were very much restricted, prices remained almost the same as before, 4-10 to 5-1.

Oil-seeds.—In Linseed the demand has been less active and transactions confined to narrow limits, prices in consequence have slightly given way,—

4 per cent.	... ...	4-4-6.
3 ,,	... ...	4-5.

Rape-seed.—Was in good demand, but more for local consumption than for export, these operations have helped prices to rise to 4-1 for Yellow and 3-8 for Brown.

Rice.—About 40,000 bags of 2 mds. each, found buyers in the following three kinds at the prices quoted below :—

Table gross	...	...	2-8 to 2-12
Ballam	...	...	1-11 to 2-0-6
Moogby	...	...	0-14 to 2-1-3.

MONETARY.

No change has followed, 4 per cent. continues to be the minimum rate of interst at the Bank of Bengal, and 3 per cent. in the open market on deposit of Govt. Securities.

GOVT. SECURITIES.

At the opening of the markets last Monday morning, there was a great sensation of the loan being tendered for in entirety by some European capitalists, which drove the prices from 5-8 to 5-15. But on the afternoon the facts of the tender being disclosed and the rate of 4-12 being declared to be the minimum caused a heavy fall in the prices to 5-2, and after various fluctuations during the week at the close they rated as follows :—

4 per cent.	...	..	4-4 to 4-6
4½ „	...	...	112 8.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
Hassan Reading Club	6	10	0
Raja Sir Madhava Row, K. C. S. I., Baroda	13	4	0
Nawadi Reading Club	6	10	0
Bangalore Literary Union	13	4	0
Moharaj Koomar of Bettia	13	4	0
District Judge, Rungpore,	3	12	0
J. Anderson, Esq., C. S., Bancoorah	13	4	0
Pundit Bishen Narain, Lahore	6	10	0
Baboo Lolit Mohun Singh, Shibpore	13	0	0
„ Bacharam Nundi, Balassore	3	0	0
„ Lingham Lukhsmsjee Pundit, Vizagapatam	13	4	0
„ Doorgachurn Ganguly, Culna	6	10	0
„ Aghore Chunder Mookerjee, Gya	10	0	0
„ Kulpotoroo Das, Banki	6	10	0
„ Rutnamony Goopta, Mymensingh	13	4	0
„ Kalikissen Das, Mymensing	13	4	0
„ Krishnachunder Chatterjee, Burdwan	13	4	0
„ Omritonath Biswas, Rajhat	4	0	0
„ Prosunnocoomar Ghosal, Mourbhunge	7	0	0
„ Narsiram Ghosal, Pooree	6	10	0
„ Sumbhoonath Prodhan, Mohamednaggur	6	10	0
„ Kylashchunder Ghose, Bhangulpore	6	10	0
„ Gyanoda Sunkor Bose, Galsakhaly	6	10	0
„ Bhimachurn Adhicary, Tamlook	5	0	0
„ Kally Kumar Ghose, Bhangulpore	13	4	0
„ Ramchunder Chatterjee, Rungpore	13	0	0
„ Bipinbehary Mittra, Searsole	10	0	0
„ Kadarnath Banerjee, Bankipore	10	0	0
„ Siddessur Chatterjee, Cuttuck	13	4	0
„ Gopalchunder Biswas, Benares	13	4	0
„ Takoordos Mookerjee, Durbhungah	10	0	0
ERRATUM.			
„ Mothooranath Sannyal, Tura, for Rs. 5, Read,	13	4	0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*July* 27, 1881.

GENERAL—The Civil Surgeon of Monghyr is appointed, under Section 5 of Act XV of 1881 (the Indian Factories Act), to be certifying Surgeon for the whole of district.

Mr. C. J. O'Donnell, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 71, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from any date, not earlier than the 24th proximo, on which he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Bhoirub Nath Palit, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 127, Chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. A. C. Mackertich, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong Hill tracts, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 71, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Mr. R. R. Pope, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Chittagong, is transferred temporarily to the Chittagong Hill tracts, and is posted to the Sudder Station of that district.

Mr. R. M. Waller, Officiating Deputy Commissioner of Lohardagga, on leave, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the Second Grade of Deputy Commissioner with effect from the afternoon of the 12th instant, *vice* Mr. W. B. Oldham.

Major C. H. Garbett, Deputy Commissioners, of Singbhoom, is appointed to act in the Second Grade of the Deputy Commissioners, with effect from the afternoon of the 12th instant, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. R. M. Waller or until further orders.

Advertisements.

Notice.

Applicants are informed that the post of Draftsman has been filled up,

Manager Tirhoot and Patna-Gya State Rys.

A special Meeting of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall on Thursday the 4th August 1881, at the close of the Adjourned Special General Meeting, to confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at Meetings, held on the 9th, 16th and 23rd July.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

TOD'S ANNALS AND ANTIQUITIES OF RAJASTHAN.

This great and rare work has just been published in two volumes with plates and diagrams.

Price (cloth binding)	...	Rs. 22
„ (Paper cover)	...	„ 20

Mofussil subscribers who have not up to date remitted their subscriptions of the 2nd vol, are requested to send in the same without delay. Those who have paid up their due are requested to let the publisher know up to what number of the 2nd vol. they have received. The remainder shall be sent to them on receipt of such intimation.

To he had of Messrs. Thacker, Spink and Co., and of all principal book-sellers of Calcutta.

HARI MOHUN MOOKERJEE,
Publisher.

Calcutta, 42, Zig-Zag Lane.

THE DARJEELING HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, "LD."

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that by virtue of a special Resolution passed in conformity with the Indian Companies' Act No. X of 1866. Clauses 13, 51, and 53, at an Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders held on the 11th instant, and confirmed at an Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders held on the 25th instant, the Darjeeling Steam Tramway Company, Limited, will hence forward be known as the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway Company, Limited.

By order of the Directors,
GILLANDERS, ARBUTHNOT & CO.,
Secretaries and Treasurers.

THE DARJEELING HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, "LD."

DEBENTURE LOAN—2 LACS.

BY virtue of the powers conferred on them under the Articles of Association, the Directors of the above Company hereby invite Tenders for debentures to the extent of two lacs of rupees, which, with the previous issue of debentures for one lac, makes up the three lacs which the Directors are empowered to borrow. They will rank *pari passu* with the previous issue as will any subsequent issue.

The Debentures will be for sums of Rs. 1,000 each, and will bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent., payable half-yearly, say, on 15th February, and 15th August, on presentation of Coupons, which will be attached to the Debentures. The Debentures will run for 15 years, and be repayable to the bearer on 15th August 1896.

In issuing the Debentures, the Company secures to the Holders a first charge on its moveable property, present and future, and all its receipts and revenue.

Tenders will be received up to 3 P.M. on Monday, 8th August 1881 at the office of the undersigned, where forms of tender can be obtained on application, and due notice will be given to the successful tenderers.

Payment in full of any accepted tender must be made to this Office by the 15th August 1881 on which date the Debentures will be ready.

By order of the Directors,
GILLANDERS, ARBUTHNOT & CO.,
Secretaries and Treasurers.

5-8 Clive Street,
Calcutta, 26th July 1881.

NOTIFICATION.

To be sold pursuant to a decree of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction made in suit No. 296 of one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine (wherein Hurrydoss Mitter and others are the plaintiffs and Amritololl Mitter and others are the defendants) dated the twenty-fourth day of June one thousand eight hundred and eighty by the Administrator-General of Bengal as Executor to the Estate of the late Lollchund Mitter deceased at his Office in the Court House on the third day of September next at the hour of one o'clock in the afternoon the following property that is to say.

Lot No. 1.—All that Putnee Talook called or known by the name of Lot Hurrispore situate in Pergunnah Bhoorsoot in the District of Hooghly in the Province of Bengal consisting of three Mouzahs, namely, Neez Hurrispore Bhaldakhally and Joet Sudder held under a Putnee Tenure from the Maharajah of Burdwan at an annual Sudder Malgoozary or rent payable to the said Maharajah of rupees two thousand two hundred and forty. The gross collection (Hustobood) of the said Talook can be ascertained at the Office of the Administrator-General.

The conditions of sale and the abstract of title may be seen at the Office of the Administrator General of Bengal or at the Office of Mr. John Hart, Solicitor at No. 10 Hastings Street in Calcutta.

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold by the Registrar of the High Court in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction in his sale room in the Court House on Saturday the 20th day of August next at the hour of 12 O'clock at noon pursuant to a decree of the said Court made in suit No. 200 of 1880 (wherein Bulloram Dass and others are Plaintiffs and Prosonocoomar Chunder is Defendant) and dated the 19th day of April 1880 the following property.

Lot 1.—All that undivided moiety or half part or share (the whole into two equal parts or shares being considered as divided) of and in the Lower-roomed brick-built house and premises together with two rooms on the upper story and the piece or parcel of land whereon the same is erected and built and the portion of the tank included in and forming portion of the said premises the whole property containing by estimation 13 cottahs and 4 chittacks more or less formerly numbered 32 now numbered 41, situate lying and being on the south side of Raja Nobokissen's Street now Grey Street Sootanooty in the Northern Division of the Town of Calcutta and butted and bounded in manner following that is to say on the north by the Road formerly called Rajah Nobokissen's Street and now called Grey Street, on the south by the family dwelling-house formerly of Neelcomul Mitter and now of Kistocomul Mitter and others, on the east partly by the dwelling-house formerly of the late Shib Chunder Holdar and now belonging to one Mothoormohun Goopto and partly by the said joint tank, and on the west by the tank of the late Tarinychurn Chatterjee now belonging to Sreenarain Bidyarutno and others, and the family dwelling-house of the late Ramchunder Sircar and others.

An abstract of title and conditions of sale may be seen at the said Registrar's Office, and also at the Office of Messrs. Watkins and Watkins, Attorneys at No. 2 Old Post Office Street Calcutta, and will be produced at the sale.

R. BELCHAMBERS,
Registrar.

Watkins and Watkins,
Plaintiff's Attorneys.
Calcutta High Court Original Jurisdiction,
Registrar's Office.
The 9th July 1881.

BY APPOINTMENT,
To His Highness the Maharajah Dheeraj
OF BURDWAN.

C. K. SEN & CO.

KOBIRAJ DRUGGISTS AND CHEMISTS,
CALCUTTA.

AYUR VÉDA MEDICAL HALL
No. 146, LOWER CHITPORE ROAD.

C. K. SEN & CO.'S

Dantashodhana Churna or celebrated Dentifrice.

The regular use of this powder is sure to cure all diseases of the gums, cures ulceration, prevents bleeding, sweetens the breath, perfectly cleanses the teeth of tartar and all other noxious matters and renders them pearl white.

Price per Box 8 *Annas. Postage &c.*, 8 *Annas*
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN & CO.'S

Kuntalabrishya or World-famed Hair Restorer.

The regular use of this invaluable oil most certainly cures baldness and prevents the hair from falling off or turning prematurely grey. It cures diseases of the head and brain and strengthens weak and failing eyesight. It possesses a very sweet odour.

Price per Bottle Re. 1. *Postage &c.*, 10 *Annas.*
2 Bottles can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN & CO.'S

Superior & Genuine Makaradhwaja.

This is one of the most potent medicines of the Hindu Pharmacopœa, never fails to produce the most satisfactory results in cases of debility from whatever cause arising seminal, constitutional or otherwise. It acts like a charm in typhus or typhoid fevers, chronic diarrhœa, habitual constipation, gleat, spermatorrhœa, female complaints after delivery, weakness of the brain from excessive mental labor, and in all complaints to which the persons of sedentary habits are especially subject.

Price 7 grains per Rupee or Rs. 24 per Tolah.
Postage 4 *Annas.*

All the above preparations are perfectly innocuous and may be taken by persons of all sexes and ages with perfect safety.

BINOD LAL SEN, KOBIRAJ,
Manager.

THE Directors of THE INDIAN ZOEDONE COMPANY, LIMITED, are prepared to allot to Applicants in India 15,000 Shares, part of £100,000 Capital of the Company, and thus give consumers in India a direct interest in the success of the Company.

Prospectuses and information may be obtained from the Agents of the Company:—

LONDON.....	Messrs.	Willis, Rodwell & Co.
BOMBAY.....	„	C. H. B. Forbes & Co.
CALCUTTA	„	Hinde, Allen & Co.
COLOMBO	„	W. M. Smith & Co.
KURRACHEE	„	A, McHinch & Co.
MADRAS.....	„	Shaw & Winch.

FORM OF APPLICATION.

TO THE DIRECTORS OF

The Indian Zoedone Company, Limited.

GENTLEMEN,

Having paid to Messrs. _____ the Agents of the Company, the sum of Rs. _____ being 10/- per Share, at the current rate of Exchange for Bank Demand Drafts; on _____ Shares. I request you to allot me that number of Shares in the Company, and I hereby agree to accept the same or any smaller number that may be allotted to me, and to become a Member of the Company in respect thereof, and to pay the balance of 10/- per Share on the Shares allotted to me, three months after date of allotment.

Name (in full) _____

Address _____

Profession _____

Date _____ 1881.

Signature _____

In order to obviate difficulties with regard to registration of transfers, the Certificates for Shares allotted to residents in India will be made out to bearer if desired, so as to facilitate transfer from hand to hand.

J. DURIE PATTULLO,
Secretary.

25, ABCHURCH LANE,
LONDON, E. C.

PROSPECTUS.

INDO-ARYANS:

Contributions towards the Elucidation of their Ancient and Medæval History.

BY

RAJENDRALALA MITRA, L.L.D., C.I.E.,

The undersigned propose to bring out, under the above title, a selection from the published Essays of Dr. R. Mittra. The essays selected are the following, *viz*:—

1. Origin of Indian Architecture. 2. Principles of Hindu Temple Architecture. 3. Dress and Ornaments in Ancient India. 4. Domestic Furniture and Vehicles in Ancient India. 5. Beef in Ancient India. 6. Spirituous Drinks in Ancient India. 7. A Pic-Nic in Ancient India. 8. An Imperial Festival in Ancient India. 9. Human Sacrifices in Ancient India. 10. Funeral Ceremony in Ancient India. 11. On the Supposed Identity of the Greeks with the Yavanas of the Sanskrit Writers. 12. On the Pala and the Sena Dynasties of Bengal. 13. Bhoja Raja of Dhar and his Homonyms. 14. On the Identification of the Rishya of the Vedic Writers. 15. Vestiges of the Kings of Gwalior. 16. On the later Kings of Kanouj. 17. On the Origin of the Hindvi Language. 18. On the Early Life of Asoka. 19. The Horse in Ancient India. 20. The Primitive Aryans.

The book will be printed with new types, on excellent paper, and will comprise about a thousand pages, bound in two volumes, demy 8vo. Price to Subscribers Rs. 16. The work will be proceeded with as soon as 250 Subscribers are registered; and it will be ready for delivery early in the Cold Season.

3, DALHOUSIE SQUARE, } W. NEWMAN, & Co.
Calcutta June, 1881. }

B. BANERJEE & CO.

Booksellers, Publishers, and Commission Agents.

No. 25, CORNWALLIS STREET, CALCUTTA.

BOOKS.—School, College, General; sold cheap.

AGENCY.—Rs. 3-2 and 2-8 % on orders below and above 500, respectively. Terms cash.

ZOEDONE FOR INDIA.

A DELICIOUS SPARKLING BEVERAGE FOR DAILY USE.

Is Exhilarating, yet Non-alcoholic.

May be taken continuously as a Substitute for Alcoholic Liquors with the most beneficial results.

ZOEDONE

Will keep good after being opened, and retains its Sparkling Qualities to the last.

May be drunk by persons of every age, and at all times:

Dr. G. S. Ranking, Surgeon, Indian Medical department, writes of it thus:—"I am of opinion that in 'Zoedone' is to be found a complete solution of the problem which has long exercised the minds of the medical profession in India, viz., the discovery of a beverage which shall assuage thirst, restore nervous waste, and, while being palatable, be also non-alcoholic. It is my firm conviction that if 'Zoedone' be introduced into India it will meet all the requirements of those who wish to restore their nervous systems without impairing their livers."

From Dr. Lucas, Bombay Medical Department, Author of "The Elements of Indian Hygiene," &c.:—"I am of opinion that the invaluable aerated beverage 'Zoedone deserves the highest attention at the hands of the Indian public; it is not only a health-giving drink, but essentially, containing as it does the quadruple phosphates of iron, lime, potash and soda, a health-restoring drink par excellence, reviving and refreshing the vital powers. It would be a blessing indeed if we could see it introduced into hotels, restaurents, regimental messes, and canteens. To weakly females in India it would decidedly tend not only to the amelioration of their own health but that of their offspring, the future generations of men and women. I need scarcely allude to its indication as a remedial and dietetic agent in cases of malarial cachexy, phthisis, &c,, the cost at which it is sold should in itself commend 'Zoedone' to the people in India."

The Company's Agents for India, including Burmah and Ceylon, are as follows:—

Agents in Chief, Messrs. WILLIS RODWELL & Co., London.

BOMBAY	Messrs.	C. H. B. FORBES & Co.
CALCUTTA...	„	HINDE, ALLEN & Co.
CAWNPORE	„	„ „
CALICUT	„	PEIRCE LESLIE & Co.
COCHIN	„	„ „
CEYLON	„	W. M. SMITH & Co.
KURRACHE	„	C. H. B. FORBES & Co.
MADRAS	„	SHAW & WINCH,
RANGOON	„	HALLIDAY BROTHERS.
ADEN	„	COMASJEE DINSHAW & BROTHERS.

Price Rs. 4 per dozen Pints, in Cases of 6 Dozen each.

ANY Orders transmitted to the Company's Agents, will meet with due attention.

Wholesale and Trade Terms may be obtained from above Agents,

BEWARE OF THE SPURIOUS IMITATION NOW BEING ADVERTISED.

By order,

J. DURIE PATTULLO,
Secretary.

BENODA BEHARY ADHYA, M.B.

No. 2, Jeliatola Street, (Kansaripara.)

CONSULTATION AND ATTENDANCE,

Night-calls to be strictly attended to.

NEWADVERTISEMENT

EAU DE LOTUS.

A sure and radical cure for Ringworm and all other skin deseases.—Applications will not irritate the parts nor stain the linen. Price As. 8 per phial.

Sold by the Agent.
O. DE. CARRY,
62, Free School Street, Calcutta.

Notice.

MR. H. BULL who has had many years Practical Experience in Engineering is prepared to take up work of any kind in connection with the Civil Branch of the profession. Designs and Estimates undertaken, advice given. Arbitration cases settled. Inventions criticised, put into a practical shape and patented. Apply in first instance by letter to H. Bull, 11, Chowringhee.

ADVANTAGES OF ASSURING WITH THE ORIENTAL LIFE OFFICE.

All that Experience has proved Practicable and Prudent in Modern System of Life Assurance can be obtained with perfect safety,

COMBINED with the following

FIVE NEW AND IMPORTANT FEATURES,

Not granted by any other Company whatever:—

1. Policy-holders can Vote at Meetings.
2. Amalgamations *impossible.*
3. Funds in Government Securities only, and remain in India.
4. Native Lives assured at European Rates.
5. Premiums reduced to English rates from date of leaving any Port in India, Ceylon or China.

LAST 12 MONTHS' NEW BUSINESS:
738 PROPOSALS for.....Rs. 29,23,250

ANNUAL PREMIUM FOR ASSURANCE OF Rs 1,000 UNDER NEW SYSTEM.

Age.		35	40	45
	RS. AS. P.	RS. AS. P.	Rs. AS. P.	Rs. AS. P.
Premium ...	21 5 4	24 8 8	28 10 0	33 14 8

Lower Safe Rates than any other Office.

6. Company young, and therefore free from Old, Liabilities.
7. Premiums can be paid Yearly, Half Yearly Quarterly, Monthly, or for a Limited Number of Years.
8. CLAIMS PAID ONE MONTH AFTER PROOF OF DEATH.
9. Liberal Surrender Value of 35 per cent.
10. Policies in the Form of Promissory Notes.
11. Entire Direction in India.
12. The Most Economical Management.
13. Preliminary Expenses Rs. 970-15-0 only.
14. Lapsed Policies Revived without Fine.
15. Policy-holders can appoint their own Trustees, Auditors, or Consulting Actuary.
16. Medical Examinations arranged anywhere to suit Assurers.
17. No Restriction on Travel.
18. Suicide does not cause a Forfeiture of Policies after they are One Year in force.
19. Policies in favour of Wife or Children are by law protected from Demands of Creditors.
20. 80 per cent. of Premia to be invested in Trust for Policy-holders with the Official Trustee of Bombay.

"THE 'ORIENTAL,' BY ITS CAREFUL AND EQUITABLE MANAGEMENT, IS RAPIDLY GAINING THE CONFIDENCE OF THE NATIVE COMMUNITY."

Intending Assurers or Investors—Native or European—are invited to compare the Rates and Conditions of the "Oriental" with those of any other Company.

Detailed Prospectuses, Proposal, Share, and Agency Forms, Reports, and Full Particulars on application to

D. MCLAUCHLAN SLATER, F.I.A.,
Manager and Actuary,
HEAD OFFICE, 9, Elphinstone Circle, BOMBAY,
Or any of the Agents in India.

D. M. DASS,
Agent Calcutta,
31, *Peepulputty Road.*

NOLICE.

Wanted a Head Clerk for the Bhaugulpore Municipality salary 50 Rs. A thorough knowledge of English and accounts is necessary. Applications will be received up to the 15th August 1881.

Bhaugulpore, The 21st July 1881. } GOPAL CHUNDER SIRCAR, Vice Chairman.

Notice.

OPENING OF KAWNIA AND DHURLA RAILWAY.

Calcutta to Dhubri in 26 hours.

On and from 1st August next, the Kawnia and Dhurla Railway will be opened for both Goods and Coaching Traffic, and Trains will run from Booree Hat (Left Bank of Teesta) to Kurigram (Right Bank of Dhurla) as under, in connection with the E. B. R. and N. B. S. Railway Mail Trains and Ferry Services to Dhubri. The through journey from Calcutta to Dhubri will occupy only 26 hours.

UP-STATIONS	TIMING	DOWN-STATIONS	TIMING
Sealdah EBRy Train dep ...	1-30 P.M.	Dhubri Steamer dep	8-30 A.M.
Sara N B S Ry Train dep ...	7-30 ,,	Kurigram Train dep	1-45 P.M.
Kawnia N B S Ry Train arr ...	5-24 A.M.	Booree Hat Train arr	4-15 ,,
KawniaSteamer dep	6 ,,	Kawnia Steamer arr	5-15 ,,
Booree Hat Train dep ...	7 ,,	Kawnia N B S Ry Train dep ...	9 ,,
Kurrigram Train arr	9-30 ,,	Sara N B S Ry Train arr ...	6-50 A.M.
Dhubri Steamer arr	4 P.M.	Sealdah EB Ry Train arr ...	12-25 P.M.

For further particulars see Time Bill now being issued,

Traffic Supdt. Office, N. B. S. Ry. Saidpur, 23rd July 1881. } By order, G. M. DRURY, Traffic Superintendent.

ZOEDONE.

Specially prepared for India and strongly recommended by some of the highest Medical Authorities.

Regular shipments of this favourite non-alcoholic beverage are now received. Price reduced to Rs. 24 per case of 6 dozen pints, or Rs. 4 per dozen.

HINDE ALLEN & Co.,
26, Strand,
Agents, Indian Zoedone Company, Limited.

"PHOSPHODYNE."

TRADE MARK.—*Sanctioned by H. M's. Government.*

HEALTH, STRENGTH, & ENERGY.

DR. LALOR'S PHOSPHODYNE

Protected under the Trade Marks Act (38 and 30 Vict. ch. 91). Enacted by the "*Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.*" 20th August, 1875.

Discovered and so named, A. D. 1862, by R. D. LALOR, M. D.

Pleasant to the taste, the only Safe, Prompt, and Reliable PHOSPHORIC REMEDY for Fagged, Weary and Worn out Brain Toilers, Worry, Anxiety, Excitement, Business Pressure, Nervous Prostration, Nerve Pain, Wasting Kidney Diseases, Sleeplessness, Consumptive, Stomach and Liver Complaints, Impure and Impoverished Blood, Premature Decay of Vital Powers, and all morbid conditions of the system, dependent upon the deficiency of the Vital Forces.

Dr. Lalor's Phosphodyne.

Purifies and Enriches the Blood; Clears the Skin; thoroughly invigorates the Brain, Nerves, and Muscles; Re-energises the Failing Functions of Life by supplying the PHOSPHORIC element which has been wasted, and thus Imparts Energy and Fresh Vitality to the exhausted Nerve-Electric Force, and Rapidly Cures every form of Nervous Debility, Paralysis, Nervous Mind and Heart Diseases, from whatever cause.

Twenty Years' Public Test

Prove these facts unimpeachable, being fully borne out by thousands of testimonials from every nation and country in the world, freely offered by distinguished families, private persons, military, naval, scientific, and professional men who are well known, and who have experienced from its use all the benefits here indicated.

Sold in Bottles at 4s. 6d. and 11s. by all Export, Wholesale, and Retail Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—NONE IS GENUINE UNLESS the name Dr. Lalor's Phosphodyne, London, England, is blown in the Glass of each Bottle, and every Bottle bears the British Government Stamp, with the words Dr. LALOR'S PHOSPHODYNE, London, England, engraved thereon by Order of Her Majesty's Honourable Commissioners, IF NOT, IT IS A FORGERY, AND YOU HAVE BEEN IMPOSED ON BY A WORTHLESS IMITATION.

DR. R. D. LALOR,
BAY HOUSE, 32, GAISFORD STREET,
LONDON N. W., ENGLAND,
The Sole Proprietor and Originator of Phosphodyne.
Sold by all the Leading Chemists and Merchants in India.

COLLEGE AND SCHOOL

SILVER MEDALS FOR THE YOUTH OF BOTH SEXES.

WE beg to draw the attention of the various Educational Departments of Government, and of all Donors of Prizes to Colleges and Schools, to our large and varied Stock of SILVER MEDALS, suitable for Presentation to Students and successful Prize-winners.

The Empress Medal, Rs. 30 Cash.

Having been repeatedly asked o a Medal bearing the representation of Her Majesty the Queen, we have just produced.

THE "EMPRESS OF INDIA" COLLEGE AND SCHOOL MEDAL.

A GOLD or SILVER MEDAL, of $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter.

Cash Prices. { Gold Medal, in Case ... ... Rs. 200
Silver Medal, in Case with or without Loop for Ribbon ... ... Rs. 30

It bears on the OBVERSE the head and bust of Her Majesty, within the legend "Victoria Empress," and on the REVERSE a raised Laurel Wreath only; thus leaving space for inscription. *Vide* Illustration,

The Temple of Fame Medal $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch, Rs. 20 cash in case.
The Star Medal... ... ... „ 16 in case.
The Triumph of Industry Medal ... „ 16 in case.
Plain Silver Medals, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter „ 10 in case.
„ „ $1\frac{1}{2}$ „ „ 14 in case.
Silver Medals, with Wreath on each side, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter ... ... „ 19 in case.

NOTE.—The prices quoted are for the Medals and Cases only. Any engraving or inscription which may be ordered to be cut upon them will be subject to a further charge, varying according to the cost of production.

Gold Medals we make to order, at prices ranging from Rs. 50 to 200.

HAMILTON & Co.,
Manufacturing Gold and Silversmiths, Calcutta.

F. W. BAKER & Co.,

SILK MERCERS AND FURNISHING UPHOLSTERERS.

BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT

Plain & Brocaded Silks,
Plain & Brocaded Satin
Plain & Brocaded Velvets,
Silk Stockings, Silk Vests,
Silk Pants, Silk Handkerchiefs.

LARGEST STOCK IN INDIA.

Velvet Pile and Brussels Carpets

Mirrors! Mirrors!! Mirrors!!!
Gerondoles! Gerondoles!!

In handsome Gilded & Black & Gold Frames, in several beautiful designs.

A VISIT OF INSPECTION SOLICITED.

F. W. BAKER AND Co.,

9, Old Court House Street,
CALCUTTA.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY

President:

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, K. T.

Vice-Presidents:

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K. G. | HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.

Subscribed Capital £2,000,000
Whereof Paid-up £450,000
Reserves and Balance of the undivided profit (1879) £1,142,470

LIFE DEPARTMENT

Accumulated Funds irrespective of Capital and Reserves at 31st December 1879

Life Assurance Branch £2,989,885 11 4
Annuity Branch 311,961 13 4

NOTE.—The Life and Annuity Funds are specially invested to meet the obligations of these Departments, and are not liable for the obligations of the Fire Department.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

To the assured with profits this office presents the peculiar feature of combining the advantages of a Mutual Office with the great additional security offered by a large and influential Proprietary.

Nine-tenths of the whole profits of the Life Assurance Branch belong to the assured, one-tenth only going to the Shareholders, but as the profit which has arisen on the non-participating policies alone has been found to be more than equal to the sum received by the Shareholders, it follows that there is divided as Bonus among those who assure with profits a sum larger than the whole profit arising on their own policies.

The rates of this Company compare favourably with those of other Offices.

INDIAN BRANCH

CHIEF OFFICE FOR INDIA.

1, HASTINGS STREET, CALCUTTA.

LOCAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

J. C. MACGREGOR, ESQ., Receiver, High Court. | W. C. MORGAN, ESQ., Solicitor.

ROBERT STEEL, ESQ., Merchant.

General Agents for India:—ROBERTS, MORGAN & CO., No. 1, Hastings Street, Calcutta.

N.B.—Risks on Native Lives are accepted on special terms.

DEY'S PURE LIME JUICE.

Passed the Custom House Rs. 8 per dozen.
Preserved under a new process to keep for years Rs. 7, per dozen, single bottle As. 12.

DEY'S LECODERMA OINTMENT.

Specific for the cure of White Leprosy, Price Rs. 3 for ounce pot, Rs. 2 for half-ounce pot.
The efficacy of this drug is established by repeated trials, Price for one ounce pot Rs. 3, for half-ounce pot Rs. 2, postage 4 annas.

DEY'S RINGWORM OINTMENT.

Specific for Ringworm, superior to Goa Powder.
Produces no pain or irritation whatever on application.
Price for one ounce pot Re. 1, half-ounce pot As. 8, postage 4 annas.

To be had of— PREO LOLL DEY,
Practical Chemist, 4, Beadon Street, Calcutta.

MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE IN BENGALI.

BY RAI KANNYLOLL DEY BAHADUR, F. C. S.

An approved text-book for Vernacular Medical Schools in Bengal. The notice of Hospital Assistant, Muktears and Vakils is solicited to this publication which will prove valuable to them in the discharge of their professional duties. Price Rs. 5 per copy, postage 2 annas. To be had of Messrs Thacker Spink & Co., and Messrs Newman & Co., or the Author, 4, Beadon Street, Calcutta

THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

All Subscriptions payable in advance, and none for less than one month.

IN TOWN.	Rs.	As.
Per Month	1	2
„ Annum	11	8
„ Single Copy	0	8
IN MOFUSSIL.		
In Advance per Annum	13	4
Arrear Do.	15	8
RATES OF ADVERTISEMENT.	Rs.	As.
Per line	0	4

Printed and published by WOOMESH CHUNDER NUNDI, *at the* HINDOO PATRIOT PRESS, No. 108, BARANUSSY GHOSE'S STREET, CALCUTTA

Hugly by Babu Rajendra Naryan Nundy, Shawgunge ; Babu Nundolal Gossain, delegate of Gopi Kristo Gossain, Serampore ; Babu Bejoy Kristo Mookerjea, Otterparah. Midnapur by Baboo Ashutosh Dhur, delegate of Kumar Mohender Nath Khan. Orissa by Babu Nemy Churn Bose, Rai Bahadur, Balasore. Sonthal Pergunnahs by Babu Manik Chunder Roy, delegate of Moharaja Gopal Sing, Moheshpur. Calcutta by the Hon'ble the Maharaja Jotendra Mohun Tagore Bahadoor, C.S.I. (24-Pergunnahs, Hughly, Nuddea, Jessore, Furridpore, Rungpore, Dinagepore, Rajshye, Purnea, Sonthal Pergunnahs, Midnapore, Murshidabad, Bogra, Dacca) ; Maharaja Narendra Krishna (24-Pergunnahs Hughly, and Tipperah) ; Babu Chunder Kali Bose, delegate of Maharaja Kamul Krishna Bahadur, 24-Pergunnahs, Hooghly, Tipperah ; Babu Joykissen Mookerjea and Hon'ble Peary Mohun Mookerjea (24-Pergunnahs Hughly, Burdwan, Midnapore and Birbhoom) ; Babu Mohunlal Mittra, Rai Bahadur (24-Pergunnahs and Gya) ; Babu Nundolal Bose (24-Pergunnahs and Gya) ; and Mr. Meek, delegate of the Seals of Calcutta. Numerous letters were received from zemindars and others who could not attend through stress of business or on account of illness, sympathising with the movement and giving their opinion on the salient points of the Rent Bill. The deliberations and discussions of the Conference were confined to the points raised in the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds' Memorandum and Bill communicated to the Association with Mr. Secretary Mackenzie's letter dated the 23rd February last. This Draft Bill No. 2, Mr. Mackenzie informed the Association, embodied all the alterations accepted by the Government up to date and the Lieutenant-Governor's orders have been taken on all the points touched upon in the memorandum, but the conclusions thus provisionally arrived at were open to reconsideration hereafter.

On the points involved in the amendment of the Rent Law a perfect unanimity of opinion could not be expected. As customs, usages, and experience were of a varying nature in different districts, it was not at all unnatural that particular points should be viewed variously by different landholders. Without presenting in detail the various opinions on different questions expressed at the Conference, the Committee thought it proper to submit to Government the conclusions arrived at by the majority on the different provisions of Draft Bill No. 2, framed by Mr. Reynolds. On several points they have made suggestions which the Conference thought admitted of alterations or improvement, but where in their opinion no changes were needed, or where the changes made were unjustifiable or injurious innovations, it has not been possible to make suggestions, they have been obliged to content themselves with a mere statement of their reasons against these innovations.

Remarks on Mr. Reynolds' Draft Rent Bill.—This Bill, the Committee observed, was a decided improvement in some particulars upon that of the Rent-Law Commission, but in other respects it went much beyond the latter, and as it was for the most part founded upon the original Bill and partook of its one sided character it was open to much the same objections that have been taken to the other. It also s ought to destroy in some instances existing rights of the landlord and to confer new rights upon the tenant inconsistent with the terms of the Permanent Settlement Regulations. To give a detailed statement of the observations and opinions of the Conference would require much space, the Committee will touch upon some of the principal points embraced in their reply to Government. The Conference recommended the omission of the provisions regarding putni talooks, as the present putni law was considered sufficient and satisfactory and called for no change. Regarding the occupancy clause including the definition of an occupancy ryot and the explanation of what would be considered a settled ryot the Conference remarked that it would materially alter the law respecting the right of occupancy. The present rule of 12 years' possession constituting right of occupancy was declared by the highest legal and fiscal authorities to be an invasion of the proprietory rights in Bengal guaranteed by the Permanent Settlement Regulations. The Conference questioned the statement that the present proposal to confer the occupancy right on a "settled ryot" as defined in the Bill would place the rule in accord with the law and custom prevalent in Bengal at the time of the Permanent Settlement. After citing facts and law on the subject the Conference shewed that it was the khoodkasht kudeemee or resident and hereditary ryot, who had the right of occupancy, and they pointed out that the definition of a "settled ryot" was inconsistent with both law and custom. The Bill would deny to the proprietor of an estate the right of occupancy in a land forming part of that estate The Conference suggested that this right ought to be accorded to the landlord. If by a provision of the proposed law a proprietor was to be allowed to declare by a deed his intention to keep a tenure distinct, when an inferior right would merge in a superior right, the same privilege ought to be given to him in respect of occupancy holdings. If a proprietor should purchase an occupancy holding he ought to be allowed the usual right of a purchaser and to keep it distinct. The Conference then referred to the provisions regarding written contracts not debarring a tenant from acquiring occupancy right, to those regarding transfer of occupancy rights, enhancement of rent, abatement of rent, eviction of tenants-at-will, as also to the provisions relating to the use of land for building purposes, merger, registration of transfers of tenures, under-tenures and occupancy holdings, to instalments of rent, deposit of rent, apportionment of rent and hypothecation of rent ; to coparceners, miscellaneous rights of landlords and tenants, distraint and sub-letting. On the provision regarding contract not debarring a tenant from acquiring a right of occupancy, the Conference remarked that the provision was opposed to all received principles of civilized legislation and jurisprudence. If a man was considered competent to enter into contract of any other description it is not apparent why he should be considered incompetent in this particular. If he could barter away his money, his cattle, all his other property, and enter into other land contracts or engagements it could not be reasonable to take away his power to make a contract regarding his right in an agricultural holding. To the transfer of the right of occupancy generally the Conference were decidedly opposed except to transfer or sale in execution of decree for rent. But the Behar laudholders present at the Conference were opposed to transfer on any account whatsoever ; they advocated eviction for default. Respecting the provisions for the enhancement of rent as given in the draft Bill the Conference observed that the grounds of enhancement did not materially differ from those prescribed in the existing law, but it was notorious that the present rules of enhancement were simply unworkable. The Conference recommended that the rent of land should be fixed by a defined share of the gross produce of the land payable to the landlord. As for abatement of rent to the ryot as dealt with in the Bill the Conference would concede the demand, if the quantity of land held by an occupancy ryot was shewn by measurement to be less than the quantity for which rent was paid. But they held that the grounds of decrease of the productive powers of land and decrease in the price of agricultural produce ought not to apply as the currency of rent for ten years when once fixed was intended to close all questions for enhancement and abatement of rent for that period. With regard to the recusancy of ryots to quit their holdings and the power of eviction claimed by the landlords and the provisions of the Bill bearing upon them, the Conference expressed it as their opinion that the provisions of the Bill would encourage tenants-at-will to hold over in spite of the wish of the landlord to the contrary, not to say to collude with the amla of the latter. Exemplary penal damages ought to be imposed upon the tenant for his refusal to quit after service of notice, in order to check or prevent recusancy. The Chapter relating to the use of land for building purposes proposed to concede valuable rights to the non-agricultural population to the detriment of the landlord. Cultivating ryots wishing to build a habitation for themselves and their families would secure to themselves the right by taking the landlord's permission, the non-agricultural population ought do the same. It would be a serious and most unjustifiable encroachment upon the proprietary right of the landlord to allow tenants in the immediate possession of building lands, whether holding under or without a lease for the full period of twelve years after the commencement of the proposed law, a right of occupancy in such land with exemption from liability to ejectment. The Conference admitted that the chapter on merger in the second Draft Bill was an improvement upon the existing law, but they were of opinion that when the deed declaratory of the intention of the owner of the estate as to the status of an inferior tenure acquired by him was to be registered the provision requiring proof regarding the publication of such deed should be dispensed with. The Conference expressed their assent to the registration of the transfer of tenures and under-tenures, but as they were opposed to a recognition of the general transferability of occupancy holdings they would restrict these provisions to the transfer of holdings recognized by local custom and those by succession and sale in execution of a decree for arrears of rent. Referring to the provision for rent, instalments of rent, deposit of rent, apportionment of rent and hypothecation for rent, the Conference expressed their assent to four quarterly instalments of rent, but where under contract or custom the instalments were less than four such contract or custom should be recognized. On the chapter relating to coparceners and the management of joint estates, the Conference were of opinion that whatever the ends of joint management of estates and tenures, they would be far outweighed by the proposed system, which would introduce management by delegates unconnected with the owners of estates or tenures. On the provision regarding distraint the Conference submitted that the proposed law would not in the least facilitate recovery of rent. While the Conference disowned any sympathy with ryots who sublet their lands, there were cases, they observed, in which subletting was an unavoidable necessity, such as temporary absence from home of the owner of the holding, sickness, minority, widowhood &c. In such cases they were of opinion that interference with sub-letting would not be desirable.

ROMANIZATION.

Letter to Government.—The orders of Government relative to the substitution of *Kaethi* for Urdu in the proceedings of Courts and the records of the Police having undergone some modifications, one of which was the option given to parties to file petitions in the Roman character, the Committee deemed it desirable to represent to Government the objections which this modification was open to. After reviewing the several orders issued and measures taken by Government from time to time commencing from the year 1838 to enforce the policy of using the language and character current in each province for the proceedings of the law courts thereof, the Committee referred to the resolution of 1880 by which, it was directed that Nagri or Kæthi character shall be exclusively used from the 1st January 1881 throughout the Patna division, and in such districts of the Bhaugulpore division as may hereafter be notified, and that the issue from the Courts, or the reception by the Courts of any document in the Persian character, except as exhibits is absolutely forbidden. It was also ordered that the lithographed manuscripts issued by the Central Examination Committee, should be, from January 1, 1881, in the Kaethi character and officers were expected by that date to acquire fluency in reading that character. The Committee, while expressing their appreciation of the soundness, propriety and importance of the principles underlying the orders above-mentioned could not but regret that to some extent a departure has been made from those principles in the modifications subsequently made in the orders of 1880. The modification to which exception was taken is that by which option is given to parties to file petitions other than plaints in the Hindi or Roman character. The fact being admitted that no portion of the people of Behar use the Roman or correctly speaking the English letters in writing Hindi or Hindustani in the ordinary affairs of life, the option given will not in the least benefit the masses, while it will open a wide door to the evils which the Lieutenant-Governor has so strongly denounced in his remarks in the representations submitted to him. The suitors will be entirely in the hands of their law-advisers, who will look more to the good will of the Judge than to the interests of their client. A word or two of encouragement from the presiding officers, and the muktear in order to ingratuate himself with the Hakim will advise that petitions in the Roman character will be read by the Hakim himself, the suitors will naturally place themselves in the hands of their advisers and thus defeat the professed object of Government and the policy which has been so strenuously advocated during the last fifty years. The reasons which have been urged from time to time by the advocates of Romanization are,—1st unity of the written character all over India, 2nd convenience of European officers of Government, 3rd easy reading of the records by heads of Courts, 4th facility of writing and 5th economy in printing. The Committee endeavoured to shew that the first reason was visionary, the second could secure no substantial advantages, the 3rd was futile, the fourth was a delusion, and as to the fifth the fact was quite on the other side. English types cost more, take more time in composing, cover, more space in printing and wear out faster than Indian types. The Committee further submitted that there being several systems of Romanization more or less current among European orientalists Government has not yet decided which should be adopted in Behar. Though the Government has no wish, the Committee feel assured, to revolutionise the language of the Courts, the introduction of the English letters in writing Indian languages could not but produce a frightful revolution in the phonology of those languages. Taking these and other circumstances into consideration the Committee solicited that His Honor would be pleased to reconsider the subject and issue such further orders as to him might seem fit.

Reply of Government.—The Government in reply said that without entering into a discussion of the general question of Romanization raised by this Association, the reasons which led to the issue of the orders objected to may be given. They were intended to relieve the disabilities which would otherwise be imposed, under recent changes on a small class of Mahomedan pleaders and the operation, may perhaps serve to throw some light on the practical working of a system of Romanization and so be of service ultimately in the settlement of the controversies now current on that subject.

EDUCATION.

APPOINTMENT OF A CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY AS PROFESSOR.—Some time in the month of March last it came to the knowledge of the Committee of the British Indian Association that Dr. Hœrnle, a Missionary of the Church Missionary Society and lately a professor in the Cathedral Mission College of Calcutta, was proposed to be admitted into the Education Department and appointed a Professor in the Presidency College and Principal of the Calcutta Madrassa College. Dr. Hœrnle, it was understood, had not ceased to be a missionary. The question was whether the employment of such a person in the Education Department of Government was consistent with the policy of religious neutrality in matters of education recognized by Government. A review of the history of the measures adopted by Government from time to time as illustrating the principle involved in its educational policy goes to show that such appointments are objectionable and in contravention of the principle on which the educational policy of the Government of India is based. In 1856 the Madras Government appointed Rev. Mr. Richards as Inspector of Schools, and it considered the appointment as an exceptional one and wrote to the Court of Directors to that effect. The Court of Directors in sanctioning the appointment ordered that the Revd. gentleman should be called on to elect between his clerical profession and his appointment in the Government Education Department. Mr. Richards choosing to adhere to the ecclesiastical establishment gave up the educational appointment. In the same despatch in which the question of Mr. Richard's appointment was disposed of by the Court of Directors, they wrote to the Government of Madras to say that, "as a general rule we wish you to bear in mind that we already have discouraged and deem it undesirable to appoint the minister of any religious persuasion as Inspector of Schools." In 1858 Lord Ellenborough, then President of the Board of Control deprecated the idea of connecting a Christian Missionary with the education department on the ground that his profession impairs the success of the measures of Government directed to education alone. The Committee having quoted these and some other despatches and communications all tending to shew the peremptory and positive injunctions of the Home Government to the Government of India to maintain a rigid religious neutrality in the education as in every other department of Government, submitted that the appointment of Dr. Hœrnle was a direct infringement of the standing orders of Government. They remarked that the avowed object of Christian Missioneries being proselytism their employment in the Education Department could not be reasonable, wise, or just, or consistent with the declared policy of Government in religious matters. Though a clergyman or Christian Missionary when charged with the task of tuition in a Government school or college is not permitted to impart religious instruction to his pupils, his whole training, his past associations, ideas, predilections have been otherwise, and his teaching will therefore necessarily carry a bias which he may not himself perceive, but which may nevertheless exist. When perfectly eligible persons may be available, it cannot be consistent with the recognized policy of Government to introduce an element in the educational service of Government which is calculated to foster suspicion, distrust, and dissatisfaction in the minds of the people and which is openly at variance with that policy. The Committee further submitted that Dr. Hœrnle's appointment was contrary to the rules laid down by the Secretary of State for the employment of Europeans not being members of the Covenanted Civil Service or military officers in the public service of India. For these and other reasons the Committee solicited that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor may be pleased to forward their representation to the Government of India for transmission to the Secretary of State with such remarks as to His Honor may seem meet. The Committee have not yet received any reply on the subject.

ARREST OF ZENANA LADIES IN EXECUTION OF DECREES.

Recently some *purdanushin* women having been arrested in the execution of some decrees of the High Court and lodged in jail and the occurrence having created great sensation among the native community the Committee in accordance with a resolution passed at the last annual meeting submitted a representation to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor on the subject. They admitted that according to the existing law the orders referred to were perfectly legal, but as they affected the sanctity of the zenana, they have evoked a deep feeling of dissatisfaction and discontent. Neither under the Hindu nor under the Mahomedan law was a *purdanushin* woman liable to arrest. She was not held so liable even under the British Government and she enjoyed this exemption until 1868. In 1864 Justices Loch and Seton-Karr rejected an application on the ground that *purdanushin* women were by a Full Bench decision of the High Court exempted from arrest in execution of civil court decrees. In 1868 in the case of the Maharani of Burdwan vs. Sreemutty Baroda Soonduri Debi that decision was upset. A Division Bench held that *purdanushin* women were not exempted from arrest and imprisonment in execution of a decree against her. The Full Bench to which the case was referred upheld the decision of the Division Bench, but the Chief Justice, Sir Barnes Peacock, observed that no such arrest was made within his own recollection, and this probably had arisen from good feeling and a general desire not to cause that annoyance and disgrace which would necessarily be occasioned by an arrest. His Lordship trusted that "the same good feeling will continue to exist and the arrest of a *purdanushin* woman will be a very exceptional case." Justice Dwarkanath Mittra in concurring with the learned Chief Justice observed that in exercising the discretion in ordering the issue of a warrant for the arrest of a zenana lady the customs, habits, and the feelings of the native community ought not to be altogether overlooked. Such practice obtained in the late Supreme Court, and it ought not to be departed from unless the ends of justice absolutely require that such a warrant should be issued." Whatever doubt might have existed as to the law on the subject as laid down in the old Procedure Code, that doubt has been entirely removed by the provision of the new Procedure Code of 1877. Private feeling is not a guarantee of respect to or compliance with the public feeling of society, as the recent cases have shewn, when the law leaves a loop-hole for indulgence in the contrary direction. Having regard to the sanctity of the zenana and the cherished feelings of the people, the Committee in their letter to Government submitted that it would be offering a violent insult to native feeling to force a *purdanushin* lady out of the zenana under color of the law, to put her in jail where she would be exposed to public gaze, and where her religious feelings would be necessarily compromised, and to thus destroy her modesty and self-respect. Objections might be taken to the view above set forth on the ground that payment of debts must be enforced, that the law should not make any distinction of sex for the protection of the interests of society, and so forth, but the Committee urged that while these objections were not to be treated lightly advanced opinion in the West was opposed to imprisonment for debt altogether and though the time has not yet arrived for the abolition of imprisonment for debt in this country, the Committee suggested that it might be well worthy of the consideration of Government whether the principle advocated for the abolition of imprisonment for civil debt might not be partially extended to this country in cases of *purdanushin* women.

Should the Government consider it inexpedient to go to the extent above stated, the Committee suggested an alternative plan. Firstly, a process should be issued against any property a *purdanushin* woman might have. In case she should have no property the Court might inform her that she might apply to be declared an insolvent under Section 336 of the Civil Procedure Code, and that she should be discharged if she has not committed an act of bad faith regarding the subject of her application, and if she places all her property in the possession of the officer appointed by the Court. The present law should be so far modified as to leave the creditor no option either to attach the property or the person of the female judgment debtor. It should also be so modified that in case the judgment-creditor should fail to point out any property belonging to the female judgment-debtor, the latter should be served with a notice informing her that she might file a schedule of insolvency within two months and take her discharge. If the female judgment-debtor should not avail herself of this notice and should neglect to file a schedule of insolvency she must take the consequence. The Committee prayed that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor if he concurred in the views expressed by the Committee would be pleased to recommend to the Government of India necessary alterations in the law.

(To be continued.)

Advertisements.

NEW NOVEL শৈলেশনাথ PRICE 12 AS.
BY DOORGA NARAIN GHOSE, B.A.
To be had at Canning Library, Sanscrit Press Depository, 114 Upper Chitpur Road of the author, &c. &c.

The Pain Specific!—Guaranteed to cure Pains of every kind, Gout, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Paralysis, Colics, Neuralgia, Glandular swellings, Inflamed parts, &c. In bottles, Rs. 2 and 4, packing As. 4.
W. Rooder & Co., *Calcutta.*

TO LET

A Two-storied house with garden and out-offices, No. 49, Cossipore Road. Apply to Babu Bepin Behary Ghose, Rani's Thakoorbari, No. 5, Rustomji's Lane, Cossipore.

GOVERNMENT CINCHONA FEBRIFUGE.

An efficient substitute for Quinine. Sold by the principal European and Native druggists of Calcutta. Obtainable from the Superintendent, Botanical Garden, Calcutta. Post free at 4 oz., Rs. 6: 8 oz., Rs. 11: 16 oz. Rs. 20-12. Cash with order.

Notice.

Notes on the Prose Portion of the First Arts Course for 1882 by Babu Prasanna Kumar Lahiri, M. A., Professor of English Literature, Metropolitan Institution. Price Rupees 2-8 annas, packing and postage 3 annas. Apply to.

44, Amherst Street. } J. G. CHATTERJI & Co.,
Calcutta. }

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

9, Esplanade Row, Calcutta.

PLAIN WROUGHT-IRON SAFES,

FITTED WITH PATENT LOCKS AND DUPLICATE KEYS.

Length.		Breadth.		Depth.	
15	×	10	×	8½	Rs. 47
18	×	12	×	11	,, 55
20	×	14	×	12	,, 60
22	×	16	×	14	,, 65
24	×	18	×	15	,, 75
26	×	19	×	17	,, 80
28	×	20	×	18	,, 85
30	×	21	×	20	,, 90
32	×	22	×	21	,, 105
34	X	23	X	23	,, 115
36	X	24	X	24	,, 125

The above Safes are manufactured to our express order, and are admirably adapted for holding large quantities of Silver. Where extra security is required, we fit round them strong iron bands with hasps and staples for Chubb's Patent Detector Padlocks, the charge for which varies according to size of Safe, as under.

15, 18,	20,	22,	24,	26,	28	30,	32,	34,	36 inch.
Rs. 15			19			23		26	each.

Capacity of the above Safes for holding Rupees if in Bags containing one thousand each.

	15,	18,	20,	22,	24,	26	inch.
Rs.	1,000,	2,000,	3,000,	5,000,	7,000,	10,000	

	28,	30,	32,	34,	36	inch.
Rs.	12,000,	16,000,	19,000,	24,000,	28,000.	

If put in loosely or packed they will hold much more.

10 per cent. Discount for Cash.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.,
Calcutta.

THE GREAT RUSSAPAGLAH NURSERY.

The Maharajas, Rajas, Zemindars, and the public are respectfully invited to secure from this Nursery any number of the best various fruit grafts available in the country. To prevent disappointment, early applications are solicited.

Several kinds of the best roses, orchids, colinses, crotons, caledíums, and other ornamental plants are also available, but, in a limited number, this year.

Price-list sent on application with half-anna postage, unpaid letters not accepted.

Russapaglah, Via Tallygunge. } NOOROODDEEN KHAN, Proprietor G. R. Nursery.

Save your Eyes! Restore your Sight!

Mullick's well suited spectacles and eye glasses have been proved by thousands to be the best and the cheapest ever offered to the public.

		Steel.	*Silver.*	*Gold.*
Pebbles, Concave, or Convex spectacles	Rs.	6	8	22
Neutral tint Ditto Ditto	,,	5	7	20
Crystal Ditto Ditto	,,	3	6	18
Neutral tint D shape Ditto eye Preserver	,,	5	10	25

Packing and postage ans 8.

Spectacles for cataract sight and of various kinds and make to be had.

37, Swallow Lane, Calcutta. MULLICK & Co.

(Printed at the Hindoo Patriot Press.)

BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly General Meeting of the British Indian Association was held at the Hall of the Association on Friday, the 29th July 1881, *at* 4 P. M.

Rai Rajendralala Mitra Bahadur, L. L. D., C. I. E. President, in the Chair.

The following report of the Committee was read:—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

THE Committee beg leave to submit a summary of their operations since the commencement of this year.

WELCOME ADDRESS TO THE VICEROY.

For the first time in the annals of British India last year the Viceroy and Governor General of India in the person of the Most Noble the Marquis of Ripon was installed in his exalted office at Simla, the summer retreat of the Government of India. Owing to this incident the Committee were obliged to defer the usual ceremony of waiting on His Excellency with an address of welcome till his advent to the capital, which was, however, delayed owing to His Excellency's protracted illness. On recovery His Excellency appointed the 20th day of February last for the reception of the Deputation of this Association; the President Maharajah Narendra Krishna Bahadur, in introducing the deputation offered on behalf of the Association congratulations to His Excellency on his restoration to health. In their address, after alluding to the circumstances which prevented the first welcome being offered to His Excellency on his arrival in this country, the Committee remarked that the time of His Excellency's assumption of the reins of the Government of India was such as required His Excellency's most anxious attention to the external and internal affairs of the country. Happily within the four months of his Lordships' tenure of office events and indications of policy had occurred well calculated to assure the public mind and restore the public confidence. The Affghan war had been brought to a close, and the people of India had received a gratifying assurance that justice will be done to them by the recognition by Her Majesty's Government of their claim to an equitable share of the expenses of the Affghan war from the Imperial Treasury of England. His Lordship's declaration that the Vernacular Press Act and the Arms Act, and the question of direct taxation, will receive his Excellency's best consideration, has convinced the public that while nothing will be done in haste His Lordship at the same time will not remain unmindful of the sentiments, feelings and prayers of the nation respecting questions of such vital importance. Referring to the question of land-law reform in Bengal a hope was expressed that His Lordship will not deem it unworthy of enquiry as to whether the condition of the tenantry in permanently settled Bengal was not far better than that of the peasantry of periodically settled provinces.

His Excellency the Viceroy received the Deputation with kindness and returned a gracious reply. After acknowledging the claim of the British Indian Association to the consideration of Government His Excellency expressed his regret that circumstances, over which he had no control, took him direct to Simla to assume charge of his office instead of conforming with the unbroken precedents of his predecessors who invariably entered upon the post of Governor-General in Calcutta. His Excellency thanked the deputation for the kind and friendly expressions contained in the address and assured them that those expressions will encourage and strengthen him in the discharge of the arduous duties of his office. He rejoiced at the prospect of returning peace which he said will enable him to realize all possible economies of peaceful times by endeavouring to carry out every just and reasonable retrenchment. He had already declared on several occasions the principles which will guide him in the administration of Indian affairs. He will not repeat them on this occasion; it is sufficient for him to say that it is his intention firmly to adhere to them. With regard to the Bengal land laws he said, that without expressing any opinion on them at that moment, he will on the proper occasion give to the subject his earnest attention, and will examine it with an earnest desire to promote to the utmost the just and fair rights and claims of landowners and their tenants. His Excellency also thanked the deputation for their expression of confidence that in his hands the stability of the beneficent rule of their Sovereign Mistress and the well being of her subjects are safe, and he assured them that if he can in any degree accomplish any of those objects he had set before him, he will feel when he lays down the office of Viceroy of India that his public life has not been barren. The Viceroy then thanked the deputation for their address. The gentlemen of the deputation were next presented to the Viceroy by the President, after which they retired.

LEGISLATION.

CESS BILL.—In the Council of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, on the occasion of the reading of the Bill for the amendment of the Cess Act the question of assessing "unculturable unlet land" comprised in the *Nijjote* possessions of a landlord for purposes of the Road and Public Works Cesses was raised, as being repugnant to the principle of Cess taxation. The Hon'ble mover in charge of the Bill then proposed an amendment to the effect that such uncultivated lands as are applied by the proprietor to some purpose of profit, utility or enjoyment other than public utility should be liable to assessment; other lands yielding no profit will not be liable to assessment, but an approximate statement of their area if known should be given.

The Committee in their letter to the Council observed that in the original Cess Act passed in 1871 the principle laid down was that the rental was the basis of assessment. But in the consolidated Cess Act a change was made by the introduction of a note to Schedule A, Part I to the effect that only *Nijjote* lands and uncultivated lands should be included in this part. Referring to the proposed amendment of the note the Committee, while admitting that all lands which yield profit in some shape or other ought to be brought under assessment, submitted that the words "utility and enjoyment" proposed to be inserted in the amended note were vague and indefinite. A road leading to the zemindar's house or garden, an embankment protecting his land or building, a small pasture ground on which he may let in a few cows of his to graze; a hill over which he may now and then go to enjoy the breeze or the scenery, and similar other possessions, it may be contended, may be applied to some purpose of utility or enjoyment,—would it be fair to include such lands for purposes of assessment? The Committee accordingly solicited that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor would be pleased to direct the omission of the words "utility" and "enjoyment" in the proposed amendment and to restrict assessment to those lands only which might yield profit in some shape or other in conformity with the original principle of Cess Taxation. An amendment was agreed to in the Council partially meeting the objection of the Committee.

AMENDED SMALL CAUSE COURTS BILL.—The Committee, having received from the Government of Bengal a copy of the amended Presidency Small Cause Courts Bill with a copy of the report of the Select Committee on the same for an expression of their opinion, submitted their remarks on the following points: In the first place the Committee acknowledged that several improvements had been made in the amended Bill in the directions indicated in their comments upon the original Bill. The Committee observed that they were opposed to the extension of the jurisdiction of the Small Cause Courts to Rs. 2,000 except under certain specified safeguards. In the amended Bill the jurisdiction is extended, but the Select Committee have provided the necessary safeguards by allowing a rehearing in the High Court of suits above Rs. 500, by reserving for the appointment of legally educated men one-third of the judgships, and by enacting proper rules for new trials. The Select Committee have expunged the chapters relating to Insolvency and Testamentary Jurisdictions, and have declared tiled huts to be moveable property liable to attachment in execution of Small Cause Court decrees.

In commenting on the amended Bill the Committee took exception to the provision which restricted the appointment of one-third judgships to the advocates of the High Court, thus excluding other Barristers who were not practising advocates. This provision, they remarked, would be unjust to those Barristers who might already be Judges of the Small Cause Courts, who as such would combine practical experience with professional training. With reference to the rule for determining the rank and precedence of the Judges of the Small Cause Courts according to the direction of the local Governments the Committee said that it was an arbitrary provision, inconsistent with the usual etiquette in such matters, and recommended that the rank and precedence of the Judges should be determined as elsewhere and in the High Courts according to the time honoured rule of seniority. The provision that in a bench of two Judges sitting together in case of difference of opinion the opinion of the senior Judge should prevail was not consistent with reason. It amounted to making the second or junior Judge a nullity though ordinarily one Judge was as good as another. In such cases, the Committee submitted a reference to the High Court ought to be allowed or that course may be obviated by providing that a full bench shall not in any case consist of less than three Judges or of such uneven number. The Committee took exception to the provision to vest the Registrar or Chief Clerk of the Court with judicial powers. It was objectionable on principle to clothe an executive officer with judicial powers. The Committee further suggested that the section, giving power to the Courts to try with the consent of parties, suits beyond the pecuniary limits of their jurisdiction should be expressed in the words of the Act of 1864 from which it was borrowed. The withholding of costs in a suit, which has been referred to and admitted by the High Court, would be unjust and inequitable and would amount to a penalty to the referee. The Committee again strongly protested against the adoptions of the Civil Procedure Code as the procedure of the Small Cause Courts. They repeated that it would simply destroy the usefulness of the Court as a Court of cheap and speedy justice. With regard to the Res Judicata section the Committee deprecated this provision, on the ground that it would be prejudicial to the interests of justice and from the absence of all finality would lend to keep the sore perpetually open as it were. Proviso 2 of Section 26 makes the return of a document to the party concerned before a rehearing or new trial conditional upon the delivery of a certified copy of such document and denies the return of a document which by force of the decree has become void or useless. The Committee did not see the justice of this provision. Documents which might be declared false in one case may be sued upon in another and proved true. Instead of eight days being given as the time for application for a rehearing in the High Court they suggested one month to provide for taking of legal opinion and preparing papers. The Committee deprecated the application of the provision in the Civil Procedure Code for the service of a summons in Small Cause Court cases, as substituted service of summons would involve injustice. Paragraph 2 of Section 48 makes the applicant for the possession of a property liable as trespasser, though no actual possession is taken under such application. The Committee observed, that the dismissal of a false application and liability for costs incurred thereby would be a sufficient check against frivolous applications and it would be hard to make the applicant liable as a trespasser for making a mere application for ejectment. The Committee next took objection to Section 53, which declares that the person against whom judgment has been given contingent upon a reference to the High Court shall furnish security for the costs of reference and for the amount of such judgment, inasmuch as the reference would mean that the Judges had not made up their minds and that the trial had not been concluded. Then the Bill provides that in suits above Rs. 1,000 the advocates and pleaders of the High Court only shall be permitted to plead. This provision would make practice in the Small Cause Court above Rs. 1,000 a monopoly of the advocates and vakeels of the High Court, which would be extremely unjust to other members of the legal professions. The Committee did not see the justice of favoring one class of legal practitioners to the prejudice of other classes, when all were equally competent for the task. Besides, such a restriction would neutralize the best recommendation of the Small Cause Court, viz, cheapness, by compelling suitors to have recourse to a expensive legal agency instead of leaving him at liberty to select the best and cheapest agency which he might think fit. From whatever point of view the provision was considered it was open to serious objection. The Committee therefore recommend that practice in the Small Cause Court should be thrown open without distinction to advocates, vakeels, attorneys of the High Court, to district Court pleaders, and certificated pleaders of the Small Cause Courts.

NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS BILL.—In reply to a requisition from the Government of Bengal for an expression of the opinion of the Association on the amended Negotiable Instruments Bill, the Committee observed that as they were only concerned to see how far the Bill would affect native Hundies and instruments of that description, they have examined the Bill from that point of view. As the first section states that nothing contained in the Bill affects any local usage relating to any instruments in an oriental language, the Committee did not consider it necessary to comment on these provisions of the Bill which would certainly be open to objection if they were meant to be made applicable to native Hundies. The Hundee business of the country, the Committee remarked, was conducted according to a code of unwritten and customary laws, which were well understood by people engaged in banking business and which were recognized by the Courts of Justice. As the Bill did not propose to interfere with these laws and customs, the Committee had no remarks to offer upon it except upon one or two points. With reference to the provision that where usages might be excluded by any words in the instrument, indicating an intention that the legal relations of the parties thereto shall be governed by this Act, the

Digitized with financial assistance from the National Archives of India on 07 August, 2017

Committee suggested that where such was the intention of the parties concerned, some words might be introduced in the proviso requiring the parties interested to indicate their consent in writing, in order to obviate future dispute and litigation.

FINANCE AND TAXATION.

LETTER TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.—A few days before the publication of the Budget for the year 1881-82 the Committee addressed a letter to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Financial Department, soliciting the attention of the Viceroy in Council to certain important matters connected with the administration of the finances. The letter of the Committee comprised five distinct heads, (1) the decentralization of the finances of Bengal and the employment of its provincial resources for its own benefit, (2) direct taxation, (3) license tax, the necessity of its abolition or making its incidence uniform and equitable, (4) inexpediency of the remission of cotton duties, (5) economy in the administration of the finances generally and retrenchment of military expenditure. Under the first head the Committee urged that though the finances of Bengal were in a flourishing condition, and though its revenue imperial, provincial and local shewed a steady increase every year, it received scant justice in the way of employment of its own resources for its own benefit. The Committee then pointed out that notwithstanding the flourishing condition of the provincial exchequer of Bengal the pressure of the Government of India had operated to the detriment of local improvement. Under the terms of the five years contract this province had not been permitted to enjoy the fruits of good management of provincial revenue. Various improvements in provincial finance, such as the establishment of civil appellate benches, extension of primary education, erection of proper court-houses, and the like had been postponed or checked, while the embargo laid by Parliament upon imperial expenditure on productive public works had been made applicable to the execution of local public works, calculated to improve communications, foster local trade, and to contribute to the development of the resources of the soil, though the provincial revenue was quite sufficient to provide for the cost of such works. The Government of India in contravention of the terms of the contract had levied contributions from the provincial Governments for the purposes of the Affghan war and the famine in other provinces. From Bengal it had exacted 20 lakhs of rupees within the last two years, and a further demand, it was rumoured, had been made upon it. While the decentralization system had been attended with increased taxation, the freedom of financial administration promised by it had not been allowed fair play. The Committee appealed to His Excellency to consider the necessity, the propriety, the justice of permitting Bengal to appropriate its own surplus to local improvement. Under the second head, namely direct taxation, the Committee dwelt on the operations of the license tax in Bengal and the North Western Provinces to show how small was the yield, how intense was the discontent and dissatisfaction through the length and breadth of the land. The raising of the minimum of taxable income had it was true offered relief to a large number of poor persons, but the evils of a direct taxation had not been mitigated as they could not be avoided. A proper assessment of the tax would necessarily lead to an inquisitorial enquiry, which was unavoidably fraught with abuse oppression and hardship. The administration of the License tax in Bengal in 1879-80 shewed that under the first five classes the proportion of objections to assessments was 40 per cent. and upwards; in 11 districts the result was pronounced by the Lieutenant-Governor to be very unsatisfactory. The License tax has been well described by the North Western Provinces Board of Revenue, "as a tax upon ostensible means susceptible of modification by appeal to actual income. The assessment is practically a guess as to income based upon an estimate of ostensible means." The Committee then enumerated the testimonies adduced by the Board of Revenue of the North Western Provinces to show that the tax was a source of much oppression and harassment, engendering corruption and demoralization; the assessment as a rule was made by guess and it imposed a fatiguing and harassing work upon officers which distracted their attention from much useful work and occupied much of their valuable time. The Committee solicited that this subject might receive due consideration of His Excellency in Council. If for financial reasons the Government of India should be unable to dispense with the License tax, the Committee ventured to hope that it might be placed on an equitable basis, as far as practicable, and its incidence rendered uniform and general, so as to include within its scope the official and professional classes to whom the settled rule of the British Government had been a source of so much profit and advantage. The Committee further observed that if the License tax was to form a part of the fiscal system of the country, it ought to be applied to the purposes for which it was originally designed, that was to say to the relief of famine or to the formation of a Famine Insurance Fund. The Committee respectfully submitted that the Famine Insurance Fund should be restored, and, as originally promised, it should be religiously applied to famine purposes. To give effect to the views above expressed the Committee suggested that the Famine Insurance Fund be made a statutory fund, that it be set apart for the relief of the sufferers from the famine in future, that until the necessity for such appropriation of the Fund should arise, its annual proceeds be invested in Government securities, so that it may form a a sort of reserve fund to be drawn upon on the re currence of a famine. With reference to the remission of import duties on cotton goods, the Committee viewed the question in three aspects, commercial, financial and political. In 1875 Lord Northbrook remitted the duty on cotton goods with which it was thought the country manufactures competed. In 1878 Lord Lytton's Government extended the exemption to certain other goods. By this latter measure whatever little plea there might have existed of the duty being protective ceased to exist; in 1879 the Government went further and exempted cotton goods of yarns not finer than 30s and thus surrendered a revenue of about £200,000 per annum. The last remission could not be urged on the plea of protection, and in this opinion the recognized organs of the European mercantile community coincided. The financial aspect of the question far less justified the remission. The cotton duties were retained for financial reasons alone, and their remission was solemnly pledged not to be made until the finances of India admitted of their total abandonment. But the remission in question was made in the face of grave financial difficulties. During the last four years the Government had to meet a heavy famine budget, and an enormous war expenditure, and to tide over the difficulties it had not only to borrow money but also to raise 2½ millions by addition of taxation over the different provinces of the empire. The Famine Insurance Fund formed with some of these taxes disappeared in consequence of the pressure upon the public exchequer arising from famine expenditure and war charges. While the Government admitted these financal difficulties, they at the same time wantonly surrendered an annual income of £200,000 by a remission of cotton duties. The state of things in 1880-81 was no better. The revenues were prosperous, but there were the heavy war deficit and the claim of the Famine Insurance Fund, and so long as these two objects were not attained, the Committee submitted that the cotton duties ought not to be further lowered. Besides the necessity of meeting the war deficit and providing for the Famine Insurance Fund there were other considerations affecting the soundness of the financial condition of India which ought to be kept in view. There were the exchange difficulty and the precarious nature of the opium revenue. In the face of these financial difficulties, the Committee observed that it would not be wise to dispense with the cotton duties, which yielded about three quarters of a million. As a tax it was not felt by any class of people not even by the consumers of cotton goods, who really paid it; because the burden upon them was infinitesimal. The sacrifice involved in the surrender of the cotton duties must be recouped by some other mode of taxation, and it would be a great calamity for the people of India, if this loss were made good by a direct tax in the shape of a license tax or income tax. If the finances did really admit of reduction of taxation, the license tax, which was a fertile source of annoyance, injustice, and oppression, had a priority of claim to remission before the cotton duties, which cause no inconvenience no injustice, no oppression, no discontent. The political aspect of the question is serious. The sentiments, feelings, and interests of the whole people of India were arranged against the interests of a few manufacturers of Lancashire. The duty yielded a substantial income to the general revenue without being attended as stated above with any injustice, hardship or oppression, its remission had not benefited the Indian consumer in the least; while this was the case its remission in the face of the unsound condition of the finances of India would amount to making a present of 3 quarters of a million to the rich manufacturers of Lancashire, and such a measure would not but produce the deepest dissatisfaction among the people of India. The question would be worthy of some consideration, if the interests of the whole United Kingdom were concerned, but to sacrifice the interests of two hundred millions of Her Majesty's loyal subjects for the sake of only a handful of the British public interested in cotton manufacture would be neither right nor just. The Committee appealed to His Excellency the Viceroy in Council to consider the question in that broad, enlightened, and impartial spirit which befitted the representative of Her Imperial Majesty. Lastly the Committee reiterated their conviction that a sound administration of the finance must be based on economy, and in that view they urged the enforcement of rigid economy in all branches of public expenditure, especially the army. The Committee concluded with earnestly praying that His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council will strongly urge upon the Home Government, on behalf of the people of India, the imperative necessity of such reform in the British Indian Army as may combine economy with efficiency.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT.—The Government of India in acknowledging the above communication stated "that the remarks made by the Committee on certain important matters connected with the Finances of British India will receive the careful consideration of the Government of India."

RENT-BILL CONFERENCE.

For nearly twelve months the Committee have been occupied with the new Rent Bill. In their last annual report they adverted to the steps taken by them to secure a full and thorough expression of public opinion on the Bill of the Rent Commission and on their report thereon. They also stated that their appeal had met with a ready response. They also mentioned the reference they had subsequently made to Government with a view to ascertain the points to which His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor might wish to restrict the proposed legislation, especially as to whether the Bill of the Rent Commission was accepted by Government in its entirety or not. In reply the Government was pleased to inform the Association that it was not in a position to state precisely what modifications it would ultimately propose in the Draft Bill of the Rent-Law Commission, but indicated in general terms its views regarding the Bill. On the receipt of this communication from Government the Committee thought that the best way of dealing with it would be to consider the proposals of His Honor at a general conference of landholders, and they accordingly invited a conference of landholders at the rooms of the Association, asking them to be present in person or by delegates. They have the satisfaction to state that their invitation was warmly responded to throughout the Moffussil. The Conference was held on the 28th February, and its sittings extended to three weeks. The following statement shews how the different districts were represented at the Conference: Maharaja Narendra Krishna, President of the Association was in the chair, and the districts were represented at the conference by the zemindars either in person or by their delegates as shewn below: Behar was represented by the Hon'ble the Maharaja Luchmessur Sing of Durbhanga, Munshi Mohamed Amir (Patna); Babu Saligram Sing, (Shahbad); Babu Joyprokashlal (Dumraon); Babu Surya Naryan Sing, (Bhagulpore); Babu Hurbuns Sahai, Honorary Secretary, Behar Landholder's Association, Babu Uma Churn Doss, delegate of Roy Shamlal Mitra, Gya; East Bengal by Babu Purno Chunder Banerji, Secretary, East Bengal Landholder's Association; Babu Kaliprosunno Ghose, Manager, Bhawal Estate; Babu Gopal Chunder Chatterjea, delegate of Babu Gobind Chunder Roy, Dacca; Babu Gobind Chunder Dutt, Dacca; Furreddduddin Ahmed and Nawab Mir Mahomed Ali, Furridpore; Babu Mokund Nath Roy, delegate of Babu Dwarka Nath Roy, Mymensing; Mr. P. L. Roy, Secretary, Provincial Landholder's Association; Babu Lukhi Kant Roy, delegate of Babu Kessub Chunder Sanyal Choudry, Mymensing; Babu Girja Sunkur Mujoomdar, for self and delegate of Babu Sham Sunkur Mujoomdar, Furridpore; Babu Biressur Doss, delegate of Golam Ali Choudry, Backergunge; Babu Dejendra Nath Sanyal, Pubna; North Bengal by Raja Promotho Nath Roy Bahadur, Digaputti; Babu Rajmohun Sircar, Secretary, Rajshye Association; Babu Taranath Choudry, Lallore; Babu Kali Kissore Munshi, Bogra; Babu Chunder Kissore Munshi, Bogra; Babu Muthura Nath Roy, delegate of Babu Rumuni Mohun Choudhry, Rai Bahadur, Rungpore; Babu Brojo Nath Bhumik, delegate of Babu Luchmon Churn Gurro-Gossain, and Babu Bepin Chunder Sanyal, Bogra; Babu Sosodhur Roy, delegate of Raja Kristendra Nath Roy, Bolehar, Rajshye; Chittagong by Babu Okhil Chunder Shome, delegate of the Chittagong Association; Sylhet by Babu Joygobind Shome, who also represented the Sylhet zemindars. Nuddea by Roy Judu Nath Roy Bahadur, Babu Prosunno Chunder Roy, and Babu Nuffur Chunder Pal Choudry, delegates appointed at public meeting; Mir Mussurruff Hossein, Kushtea. Jessore by Mr. J. H. Rainey, Moulvi Abdul Huq, Babu Kunjo Lal Mookerjee, delegate of Babu Gobind Chunder Roy, Nurral. 24-Pergunnas by Babu Boycunto Nath Bose, Baroe; Babu Charu Chunder Mullik, Babu Dwarky Nath Mookerjea, Babu Ashutosh Dhur. Mursheda-bad by Babu Grish Chunder, delegate of Babu Ram Das Sen; Babu Manik Chunder Choudhry, delegate of Raja Jogender Chunder Roy, Lalgola.